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THURSDAY, APRIL 11TH, 2013

**Council to keep
faith with feeder
school system**
see page 5

INSPIRATIONAL HOMES & GARDENS

Pages 15 & 16

**Conservatives
pay tribute to
iconic leader**
See pages 8 and 9

EVIE (aged 3) ATTRACTS MASSIVE SUPPORT

FUNDRAISING efforts to help little Evie Broad, a three-year-old girl from Sully, are making great progress.

Little Evie was diagnosed a year ago with a form of cerebral palsy - 'spastic diplegia'. Her

hopes of walking properly depend on an operation that can be performed in America, and her supporters are trying to raise £60,000 to enable her to make the trip, and then to provide treatment after the operation.

Evie's mum Zara,

husband Jason and fundraisers passed the £20,000 mark in early March and since then, a 'spring and sparkle' ball in Penarth has added £1,071 to the total.

Zara said: "I would like to thank everyone who attended, and Vicky of Jacbee Marketing for all her hard work."

"Also, thanks to Perfect Finish for donating the chair covers and making the room look perfect, Polly from Capital FM for hosting the evening, Joe from K-OSS for his dance performance and the band on the night 'Session'."

Another March event was a quiz night at the Seashore Grill, Sully, which raised £283.81, and staff at the grill added a £50 donation.

On March 30, there was an Easter fun day, in Victoria Park, Barry, and Zara thanked all the people who turned up to support Evie, raising £661.

A series of charity events is taking place in the coming months. (CONTINUED ON PAGE 5)

Festival funding fillip!

A BARRY Arts group has received Arts Council backing for its plans for the last week in May this year.

See page 4 for more information on this story.

Dashing away with the smoothing iron!



ABOVE: These Rhooose ladies hit on a novel way of raising funds for two charities last weekend. (SEE THE FULL STORY ON PAGE 4).

NEW LIGHTS BRING TAILBACKS TO A48

VALE residents who work in Cardiff kept The GEM switchboard busy on Monday and Tuesday this week, after experiencing hold-ups of up to 20 minutes because of the new traffic lights at the Five Mile Lane junction, writes PHILIP IRWIN.

The lights were switched on last Friday and all went smoothly over the weekend, but on Monday, the combined effect of the end of the Easter holidays and the return to schools meant that there were long tailbacks.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 5)



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'I SEE YOUR TRUE COLOURS SHINING THROUGH!'

I READ, with interest, the report in your last issue about the initial meeting of the 'Barry Voice' group.

We now have 'Focus Barry', 'Barry Voice', and 'Barry First' - all claiming to be the voice of ordinary Barrians.

The one thing they all have in common is hostility to the Labour Party.

We see Independent (expelled from the Labour Party) and Plaid Cymru and Barry Voice chaired by a gentleman who was defeated in Baruc ward in 2012.

Would it not be more honest for these groups to stop pretending to be concerned citizens, and come out in their true political colours? Brian Morris, Barry

Cardiff Airport a vanity project?

NOW that the Assembly has bought Cardiff Airport for almost double what it is worth, where are they going to find the money required to improve it?

Access is always quoted as an issue and yet, arguably, Bristol Airport is harder to get to.

A rail/tram link directly into the terminal would improve matters and could be achieved with a spur from the line as it leaves Porthkerry Park.

By vehicle, the road from Culverhouse Cross

needs better signage and some upgrading.

The terminal needs a complete make-over and proper baggage and people handling facilities, but the main problem is customers!

How are they going to attract travellers to a rather tatty airport, unless there are flights going to places people want to go to?

We know that the runway can take big jets, so why are there no long haul flights?

Is this just another vanity project which will become a white elephant?

Alec Trousdel
Dyffryn

Foresight is a wonderful thing!

I DO not claim to be particularly prescient, nor am I a professional clairvoyant, but with a little Romani blood coursing through my veins and with the power of The GEM, foresight can be a wonderful gift.

Under the headline 'Worry for Uncle Sam' in September 2012, The GEM published a letter written by me on Cyprus.

I referred to the then President of the European Union being Demetrios Christofias, a Communist from Cyprus - a fact that the media seemed to have ignored.

I said, "He ascended to the EU position only days after Cyprus was forced to request an EU 'bail-out' for its bankers."

Two out of three credit rating agencies had downgraded Cyprus ... the Americans were worried ... and I ended "Watch this space".

Well, as I write, Cyprus is in meltdown. Whatever happens, the EU, the Euro, Western capitalism, will never be quite the same again. Is any bank deposit safe?

Again, I say, through the columns of The GEM, watch this space!

In Greece, right-wing and neo-fascist politicians are already MPs; the same in Hungary, France, Italy and Sweden.

A new, and at the same time, old spectre is stalking European politics.

Our own general election next time will be fascinating viewing. Christopher Short Barry

Readers' Letters

IMPORTANT! We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. LETTERS AND EMAILS MUST INCLUDE FULL ADDRESS AND A CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER. AN EMAIL ADDRESS ALONE IS NOT SUFFICIENT!

We will (in certain circumstances) protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, Don John, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7E OR email gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk

'APRIL FOOL, BUT THIS LLANMAES FARCE IS NO JOKE!'

APRIL the First has been and gone, but it seems the April Fool goes on - by that I refer to the farce going on at the junction known as the Llanmaes traffic lights where 'work' started several weeks ago - to do just what?

After several weeks of chaos and confusion at the traffic lights, while I was out walking the dog on Sunday afternoon I could resist no more - and popped across to have a chat to two of the contractors working there.

I politely asked what exactly was going on and what would we see different when it was all finished.

They told me that after nearly six weeks' work, on completion we would see little difference, other than the footpaths being widened so that pedestrians and cyclists would have their own lanes (on the

footpath). I queried their response and they confirmed the statement. Why was I so flabbergasted?

Well, there are no cycle tracks or lanes on any of the four roads entering or leaving that junction - so why were the 'good old Vale Council' squandering scarce council taxpayers' money, during a recessionary period, creating a cycle path on a footpath where there are no cycle lanes, tracks etc leading to or from the lights?

While motorists and their vehicles are suffering from some of the worst maintained roads in south Wales, the Vale Council can waste council taxpayers' hard earned money - tens of thousands of pounds - undertaking what seems to be quite unnecessary work.

Not only that, but nobody ever seems to be working there, as there are no workers on Monday through Friday at 7.45 am when I go to work, and at 4.30pm when I get home - yet there are workers there on Saturdays and Sundays.

If that civil engineering project was managed and funded by the private sector, there is a week's worth of work at best and probably for a quarter of the cost the council will be funding.

(Name and address supplied)

'Council right about bin bags'

FOR once, I agree with the Vale Council - free bin bags only made people too lazy to recycle their rubbish.

They may now think before they use them, if they have to pay for them.

I recycle about 90 per cent of my waste. I only use a black bag about every three weeks.

They cost just 97pence for a pack of 40 - so what's the big deal?

Alex Campbell Barry

Britain is now a 'paper economy'

SUCCESSIVE governments have sold almost everything since the 1980s.

Jobs in these industries were our birthright and it is no wonder we have so much unemployment today.

Privatise, then sell them off. Why? Are they on commission? Is it the economy? If that's the case, they might as well have thrown the money down the drain, for it has had as much effect as a gnat bite on an elephant's backside. Britain has become a paper economy and is as empty as a rotten orange and we now have the sell-off of Search and Rescue.

Down the Drain
Well here we go again, another company down the drain.

Search and Rescue, is going to be sold, to an American company

we've been told. The drain is beginning to smell, soon there will be nothing left to sell.

This will affect you and I, so listen up, if you don't want to die.

Don't go messing about in the sea, especially if you swim like me.

Get into trouble and you'll have to pay, before a rescue is under way.

So take money with you and keep it dry, make sure the helicopter can see it from the sky. If it's not enough and they want more, you'll have to swim back to the shore.

Should you get stuck on a mountain top, that's going to cost you quite a lot.

Shout and ask for time to pay, don't let them go and fly away!
Colin Dudley Barry

A MESSAGE FROM PERU

...to the wonderful people of Llantwit

APRIL 4 was Esther Jones' birthday; she would have turned 81, but God decided that she should join her beloved husband, Albert, last September.

I attended Atlantic College almost 30 years ago and have ever since gone back there almost every year.

Llantwit Major saw me grow up. I drank my first pints there!

I loved the Old Swan and the Tudor Tavern and Esther and Albert's Crofters Cafeteria became part of the students' life.

For a Peruvian national, as well as for so many international ex-students of Atlantic College like myself, Llantwit is Wales and for some, it is even the

UK. Llantwit is the mirror of the United Kingdom in many parts of the world and all its residents should be proud of that.

Llantwit Major and many of its residents - like Esther and Albert - are in many of our hearts and the town itself and all our teenage experiences have helped us become who we are.

From far away Peru - the county of Paddington Bear - I want to thank you all for having given me the opportunity to get to know and love your beautiful town and your wonderful people.

Esther and Albert became my family and so did all of you.

Happy birthday, Esther!
Daniel Carrio,
Lima, Peru

'Cuts should start with council salaries'

THE Vale Council have once again come up trumps, not only have they got the most envious record of being one of two councils in the whole country who have given their residents one of the highest council tax increases, but have now decided to withdraw the free donation of black bin bags.

The reason, according to Clifford Parish, is all to do with recycling. The mind boggles. No, Mr Parish, this is just

another mean cut to save the council money and let's not forget, these bags are not given free. We, the Vale residents, have paid for these bags with the extortionate council tax we pay.

Let's face it, we don't get value for money do we from the council?

If the council want to save more money start by the Chief Executive slashing his (or her's) six figure salary.

How about the council leader taking a 50 per cent pay cut, and also councillors who get extra for being on committees taking a pay cut of 50 per cent?

DJ Radford
Barry

EMAIL YOUR VIEWS:

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HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL APRIL 18)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 - 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
11 Thur	07.52	9.8	20.08	9.7
12 Fri	08.28	9.7	20.42	9.6
13 Sat	09.01	9.5	21.12	9.4
14 Sun	09.34	9.3	21.46	9.2
15 Mon	10.05	8.9	22.16	8.8
16 Tues	10.37	8.4	22.51	8.2
17 Wed	11.17	8.0	23.33	7.9
18 Thur			12.09	7.4

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide table specific to their location.

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Island to Bay bus

I totally agree with the recent letter from Brian Stephens headed 'Bus service and the Bay area'.

For quite a while now, I have thought a bus service that connects Barry to the Bay would prove very popular for all concerned.

I envisage a service from Barry Island via King Square, serving either Dinas Powys or Penarth (or both) then stopping at the Bay.

It makes sense to me that visitors to either attraction may wish to split their day and visit both. Even if the service operated in the summer months, I think the demand would be there. Malcolm Wilson, Barry

TEN LOCAL CHURCHES JOIN A 'WALK OF WITNESS' IN BARRY



The 'Walk of Witness' making its way up Holton Road to its final destination - King Square.

MEMBERS from 10 churches in Barry took part in the 'Walk of Witness' event on Good Friday, commemorating the journey of Jesus to

the Cross. It was the second year running that the event has taken place in the town, and a large crowd followed the Cross as it made its way from

Parade Gardens to King Square. The walk enacted the 'five stations' of the Cross, each station representing a key part of Jesus' journey to the

Crucifixion. At King Square, a service was held. It was followed by refreshments at the Welsh Tabernacle Church on a bitterly cold day.

Amber dreaming of singing date at the O2 Arena

A TEENAGER from Barry is dreaming of performing at the O2 Arena in London, after making it through to the area finals of the national Teen Star singing competition.

Amber Reed (16) who attends Bryn Hafren Comprehensive School, auditioned for Teen Star in February and won through to the regional finals in Cardiff.

She performed at the Coal Exchange in Cardiff and was chosen to progress to the area finals in Reading on the May 19.

If successful there, Amber will perform at the O2 Arena in London later this year.



Barry's talented teenage vocalist, Amber Reed.

Council will examine Dinas Powys 'wish list'

THE Vale Council is to request a series of feasibility studies on various options put forward for land in Dinas Powys formerly occupied by St Cyres School - after 477 residents responded.

Cabinet members were presented earlier this week with a report on the consultation on the future of the old St Cyres School site in Dinas Powys.

The report was prepared after discussions in the scrutiny commit-

REPORT by PHILIP IRWIN

tee for corporate resources.

The cabinet members were told that 477 Vale residents had responded, with people generally being in favour of a mixed development on the site, although there was concern about the effect on roads in the area.

The most popular suggestions were improved sporting and leisure facilities; housing; educational facilities; green space and/or allotments; and a new medical centre.

Another suggestion

was the proposal from Dinas Powys Baptist Church to occupy part of the site to accommodate both church services and community-related facilities.

The report quoted Mr Brian West, a church spokesman, as saying that the church had used the site previously and was keen to return.

Mr West drew attention to the current economic climate and to the wish to reach out to the community to give support in various ways in difficult times through, for example, the provision of workshops for adults to improve their skills, and through facilities for children.

He stated that the church would be quite prepared to work in collaboration with any other bodies in shared accommodation if required.

Vale councillor Keith Hatcher also spoke when the report was being prepared.

He looked at sport in

the area, and spoke of the popularity of Dinas Powys FC, and the need for the club to improve its facilities to progress through the league, and about the shortage of hockey facilities in the Vale.

Coun Hatcher said that he understood that funding that is currently available for a new health centre could be withdrawn if no progress was made within 12 months.

He indicated that the community council had discussed the provision of sport and leisure facilities on the site with sporting organisations and that there was potential for grant assistance to be accessed through those organisations.

The scrutiny committee report said there was a need for an assessment to be made of the viability of the various proposals, so that a 'wish-list' for the development of the site could be drawn up.

They called for this work to start as soon as possible.

Company's project with CERN

A Penarth-based web design agency is celebrating the completion of a huge project that's seen it work alongside world-famous organisation CERN on presenting information relating to the very beginnings of the universe.

CERN, the European organization for nuclear research based in Geneva, has launched its new-look website <http://home.web.cern.ch/> with the help of Penarth company Mark Boulton Design Ltd.

The new site is the culmination of

two years' work between Mark Boulton Design and the organisation, famous for being the birthplace of the web and home to the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) experiment, to redefine the purpose and intent of CERN's web presence.

Mark Boulton, founder of Mark Boulton Design, said: "This wasn't just a case of redesigning a website. We were helping CERN understand who they're talking to, what they're saying and how to say it, and then giving them the means to do it."

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Rhooose ladies' 'hot and steamy' charity effort

NOT content with battling through their own piles of ironing, a hardy bunch of Rhooose ladies have just completed their first 'Ironathon' in support of Cancer Research and Ty Hafan.

The ladies donned their tabards and tiaras for a hot and steamy afternoon ironing the smalls and not so smalls of local villagers in exchange for a £15 donation.

An astonishing £1,700 was raised through sales of ironing bags and raffle sales.

Sarah-Louise James was the 'mission' organiser and she would like to thank all the local businesses, big and small, who were so generous in donating fabulous raffle prizes and, of course, thanks go to the army of mums who took on the challenge.

Sarah is hoping that other Vale villages will rally together and do their own ironathons.

She said: "The atmosphere on the day was incredible. Who would have thought that you could have such a good time raising an amazing amount of money for two worthy causes while doing one of life's chores!"

REPORT BY JOANNE WAIN

Call to use 'real' nappies

A LOCAL volunteer is holding an event to promote real cloth nappies on April 15, at the Hub, YMCA building, Court Road, Barry, from 9.30am to 12.30pm.

Theresa Phyer said: "I would like to make more people aware of the benefits of using real nappies and it's not as hard as people seem to think. It saves the environment and it saves money in the long run."

"I will have nappies there for people to see the different types that are available and some can be purchased. There will also be a raffle to win some nappies."

"Any funds that we raise will be going towards setting up a nappy library in Barry."

Read your GEM online at: barry-today.co.uk



Dashing away with the smoothing iron!

PHOTOGRAPHS by ANDY WICKS Telephone 07855 374478



The Barry Arts Festival gets grant funding

BARRY Arts Festival 2013 will run from May 24-June 2 and has received substantial funding from Arts Council Wales.

The festival team is thrilled with the news and regards it as an endorsement of last year's successful event.

Last year was such a struggle, but this time round we can already feel the expectation of the town.

It's going to be bigger, it's going to be better, it's going to be even more fun than 2012!"

This year's line-up includes blues stars Ramon Goose, Katie Bradley and Tom Attah, virtuoso violinist Sara Trickey, Welsh folk band Adran D, artists Becci Holmes and

Claire Revera, poets Menna Elfyn and Tony Curtis, drama from Everyman Theatre, Cwmni 3D and Pukka Productions, talks by Prof Gareth Williams and Dai Smith and many more fringe events.

The ambitious plans for this year's festival include a parade on Saturday, May 25, which will begin on King Square and end at the Ship Hotel.

Full programmes will be available in the next few weeks but in the meantime for more information go to www.barryartsfestival.co.uk, or www.facebook.com/barryartsfestival.

DOT CONNELL

Library's 'Shared Reading Group'

Make friends, discover new literature and enjoy some quality time – that is the message from Barry Library's new Shared Reading Group.

Meeting upstairs in the Community Room every Friday at 12:30pm from April 12, the lunchtime Shared Reading Group, organised by the Vale Council's libraries department, offers an opportunity for local people to get together in an informal setting to listen, read aloud, and discuss different pieces of literature.

NEWS FROM BARRY MEN'S FORUM...

The wonderful Western Welsh!

THE speaker at the Barry Men's Forum meeting was Colin Scott, a former employee of Western Welsh, who worked for many years out of the Bridgend depot, and has written a comprehensive illustrated book about the company.

He traced the beginnings of the company to just after the First World War, when Albert Gray set up the South Wales Commercial Motor, adapting some ex-army lorries to carry passengers between Cardiff and Penarth, and this was so successful it soon expanded.

In the 1920s the Great Western Railway company, which also ran buses at the time from the railway stations, amalgamated with the major bus companies. In south Wales it combined with Grays company, to become the Western Welsh Omnibus Co.

The new company rapidly expanded, operating across the coastal towns from Newport to Neath, and the valleys, and to Brecknock, Carmarthenshire, Cardigan, and Pembrokeshire.

During the Second World War, drivers experienced many problems in blacked-out south Wales, having to drive through unlit streets with only masked headlights. Unlucky driver Hugh Morris was fined eight shillings, for dangerous driving, when he ran into the back of another bus. Both buses were camouflaged at the time.

The Western Welsh heyday was in the mid

1950s, when the company had become the largest bus operator in Wales with over 700 vehicles. Buses and coaches at this time were the main means of getting about for most people, and in 1952 accounted for 75 per cent of the total mileage driven on Britain's roads.

Colin vividly recalled being taken on a ride through the Vale to Penarth, and marvelling at the informality of it, stopping at farm gates and odd oak trees. The bus wound its way through the narrow lanes at Marcross and Monkash without meeting a single car, and upon arrival at Llantwit, the passengers had a cuppa in the Yacht Café, before being collected by another westbound service to Penarth.

By 1974 the Western Welsh had largely been consigned to history. However, an enthusiastic group of Barrians have renovated a number of old buses, and they welcome the public to visit the old bus depot in Broad Street, between 10am and 4pm on any Friday, when they will be conducted around the depot, which now serves as a bus museum.

An invite is also open to all to come along to the Barry Men's Forum which meets at Windsor Road Church Hall every Thursday morning at 10.15am. On Thursday April 18, the speaker will be John Wilmot, whose talk is entitled 'Ships of Barry'. For further information contact the chairman Peter Westcott on 02920 594881.

PMW

School praised for ICT Mark

BARRY Island Primary has been congratulated on its success in being awarded the prestigious ICT Mark this week, by Vale MP Alun Cairns.

"It's a fantastic achievement, and is testament to the excellent ICT management at the school. I wanted to congratulate the headteacher, ICT co-ordinator, staff and school governors for their hard work and commitment in supporting the use of new technology in the continued development of the school" he commented.

CCTV ARRESTS

POLICE arrested four people, issued two fixed penalty notices and found one missing person, following information provided by the Vale Council's CCTV operators.

The team contacted police a total of 75 times during the week ending April 7. On April 3, suspected disqualified driver was arrested on Holton Road, Barry, and one person was arrested for alleged criminal

damage at Dale Court, Barry, on April 5.

Another person was arrested concerning an assault on Holton Road, Barry, on April 6; and on the same day, another was arrested for alleged theft in St Paul's Avenue, Barry. Police also issued fixed penalty notices on Holton Road and Montgomery Road, Barry, on April 3.

On April 4, a missing person was found on Windsor Road, Penarth, after being spotted on CCTV.

HIGH KICKS AND DANCE MOVES FROM A BLUEBELL GIRL

THE April branch meeting began with the usual business matters.

One of our oldest members, Rosa Keeling, had recently died, a very enthusiastic member who had attended line dancing and extend exercise classes until her late 90s.

The birthday dinner had been enjoyed, the main meal, a carvery, was excellent.

The gardening club is about to begin, the raised bed is ready and we are just waiting for some warmer weather.

We now have our own website and are on Facebook, thanks to Merry Metcalfe. Craft this month will be a demonstration of fabric brooches by Jill Gee, on April 11.

We are also having a spring breakfast, with cereals and hard boiled eggs, on April 18. Next month is our annual meeting, when our resolution, 'To Save our

News from the Dinas Powys WI

High Street Shops', will be discussed.

Six long standing and valued members of our committee are resigning, and we are hoping that we shall have some new volunteers, especially with new ideas.

Our speaker for the evening was Rachel Evans, a native of Wales and a former ballet dancer and principal at the world-famous Moulin Rouge and Bluebell Girls at the Lido in Paris.

We were enthralled by her account of the actual performances, telling us of the many changes of costume during two two-hour performances each night.

Each dancer had her own 'map' for each show, and she was privileged to be chosen as only one of 12 'Bluebell' Girls.

At one time her partner was Craig Revel

Horwood who, she said, was the same height as her, and an amazing dancer.

She was wearing a pair of dance shoes which had been specially made for her 25 years ago and she demonstrated high kicks and moves.

There were 60 members of the dance troupe, 42 girls and 18 boys, all of whom had to be six feet tall.

After leaving Paris, she performed in 'Cats' in London, and cabarets in Los Angeles and Las Vegas.

She showed us some photographs of herself in costume, and ended her talk, dancing with two large pink feather fans.

A very entertaining evening, she was enthusiastically thanked by Veronica Chapman.

The raffle was won by Barbara Hockley. Unfortunately, there was no competition, as none of our members could find a fancy garter!

BD

Whist group hands £750 to the Barry Dock RNLI

BARRY Dock RNLI lifeboat volunteer crew member Ed Jones was thrilled to collect a £750 donation for the charity from the Wenvoe Whist group earlier this year.

An RNLI spokeswoman said: "Whist drives have been held in Wenvoe for the best part of the last 80 years and the RNLI is very grateful to the group for their generous donation of funds raised during monthly meetings last year."

"Barry Dock RNLI lifeboat station is currently raising funds for a pontoon that will make it safer and faster for the crew to respond to emergency call-outs. This area has the second highest tides in the world and at certain times of the year, the water level can rise and fall by as much as 15 metres, twice a day.

"This is just one of the reasons why the pontoon will make things so much easier for the volunteer crew members who are on call 24/7, managing their commitments to the lifesaving charity around work and family commitments."



Ed Jones collecting the donation.

'MAKING BARRY A BETTER PLACE'

THERE are some remarkable people doing great things in their own way to make the world a better place, and to make Barry better.

People like charity worker Hannah Fitt, international beer expert Simon Martin, and local hairdresser Stas Asprou. They are coming together to share their stories to support a new type of bank – an Ideas

Bank for Barry at www.yourideasbank.org.uk

To help Barry fulfil its potential, we hope many of your readers will be able to come along to a free inspiring evening, where seven inspirational local heroes, each speaking for just seven minutes, will seek to inspire others to think of ideas to help make Barry even better at the free special event.

It takes place on Monday, April 15, at 6.30pm in the Glamorgan Suite, Memorial Hall, Barry. Admission is free. Further details can be found at the Facebook site Barry Kucha or Twitter @BarryKucha.

Here is a chance to hear about people making their world – and Barry – better.

ANDY GREEN, Flexible Thinking Forum.

Guild meeting

A MEETING of the Glamorgan Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers will take place later today (April 11) at Kynance Hall, Dinas Powys.

It starts at 7.30pm and a talk headed 'Tapestry and off loom weaving from a different perspective' by Helen Foroughi, describes her 2D and 3D weaving.

Members £2, visitors £5; for further details, ring Kirsten Gable on 01443 650336; email kirstengable@gmail.com or welshkirsten.ravelry.

BARRY ROTARIANS HELP LOCAL PUPILS TO GET ON THEIR BIKES!



Barry Rotary Club members present the tricycle to Ashgrove School.

FOLLOWING a most informative talk earlier in the Rotary year from Ashgrove School headteacher Chris Britten and assistant headteacher Ceri Pritchard, members of the Rotary Club of Barry decided to support Ashgrove School by donating some of their charitable funds to provide a specialist tricycle for the Ashgrove Bike Club.

Ashgrove School is a specialist provi-

sion for children aged 3-19 years, from the Vale and beyond with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The school aims to provide a caring atmosphere in which each child is encouraged to develop effective communication, social and independence skills and achieve his or her full academic potential.

Several members of the Rotary Club of Barry recently visited Ashgrove

School to present the tricycle. They were also able to meet pupils and staff and enjoy coffee and biscuits in the Ashgrove Cafe.

Speaking on behalf of the Rotary Club of Barry, president John Shapland said it was a pleasure to support Ashgrove School and thanked staff and pupils for such a warm welcome.

A48 traffic snarl-up Motorists hope it can be solved

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

GEM reader Terry Hoggett, who lives in St Hilary, had trouble on Monday so, on Tuesday, he was taking detailed notes.

He said: "At 8.10 am, I hit the A48 tailback, and I clocked it at 1.3 miles. It took 14 minutes, crawling in first gear, to reach the lights."

"At the lights, it was on red for 40 seconds, with traffic piling up on the main road, with few vehicles emerging from the side roads."

Later, at around 8.30am on Tuesday, Vale MP Alun Cairns and Vale Councillor Jonathan Bird found the traffic queuing back past the Aubrey Arms, and estimated the tailback at four miles.

Mr Cairns said: "For the Welsh Government and Vale Council to spend £1.2 million on this is scandalous."

"It would have paid for the missing element of the new access to Barry Island."

"I will be raising it with the Leader of the Vale Council when we next meet."

Coun Bird added: "The whole job has been a debacle from start to finish, with little or no consultation with the affected parties."

"The scheme seems to be way over the top with a confusing amount of signs (more than 40), I really don't think this is progress."

"I have called a meeting with Alun Cairns MP, the local community council and the Vale Council's cabinet member, Coun Rob Curtis."

"We expect to get together at 2.30pm this Friday at the Reading Rooms in Bonvilston. This situation is wholly unacceptable."

Andrew Loosemore, operational manager for highways and engineering, said: "The phasing and timings of the new signals will be closely monitored over the next couple of weeks."

"These will be adjusted, as appropriate, to suit the operational requirements of the junction and achieve the best performance."

"This should ensure that any queuing along the A48 is reduced to a minimum, particularly at peak periods and as drivers become more accustomed to the new layout."

"The installation of traffic signals at this junction has been implemented as a highway safety scheme with the safe control of traffic movements through all parts of the junction being the primary objective."

"Unfortunately, the consequence of achieving this safety of movement is a certain amount of traffic queuing along the A48 at the new sig-



ABOVE:

Coun Jonathan Bird and MP Alun Cairns, with A 48 traffic tailing back past the Aubrey Arms.

nals to achieve this objective. These junction improvement works on the A48 Sycamore Cross were funded by the Welsh Government as part of their National

Transport Delivery Plan for 2012/13 and this funding could not be used for any other purpose, including that of an access road to Barry Island."

Council says it will keep 'feeder schools'

THE Vale Council has backed away from far-reaching changes to its school admissions policy – that would have meant abandoning the 'feeder school' system.

The proposals had caused concern in schools such as Llanfarcraig, Llanfair and St Nicholas – all schools that feed into Cowbridge Comprehensive.

At the moment, parents from outside the immediate catchment area of these three schools enrol their children to improve their

chances of moving on to Cowbridge Comprehensive.

It was felt that an end to the feeder school system could reduce pupil numbers at the schools, making them vulnerable should a review of capacity take place in the future.

Following an extensive consultation, the cabinet of the Vale Council has accepted a report which has advised keeping the feeder system, with some amendments.

A Vale Council spokeswoman said: "The new arrangements, which will come into effect for admissions to year-7 classes from 2014, will give a high

by PHILIP IRWIN

priority to applications for children who attend a named feeder school and live in the catchment area of their preferred secondary school."

The council wrote to all parents of children attending its primary schools to inform them of proposals to change from the current feeder system to a catchment system.

The consultation, which was published on the council's website and ended on March 1, received 785 written responses.

Coun Chris Elmore, the Vale Council cabinet member for children's services, said: "I am grateful to everyone

who took the time to let us know their opinion on this important policy."

"We have carefully considered all the comments and have altered our initial proposal to retain a high level of priority for children attending feeder schools."

"Last year, 96 per cent of parents were allocated a place at the school of their choice, and I am keen to retain the high levels in the future."

Andrew RT Davies, the Leader of the Welsh Conservatives, who lives in the Vale, said: "It does now appear that commonsense has finally prevailed."

It is disappointing, though, that once again it has required vociferous opposition from local parents, governors and teachers for the

council to come to the right conclusion.

"It was vital that the excellent pastoral care and strong links between schools were maintained and I will continue to work constructively with the Vale Council to ensure that the educational needs of our children are met."

Vale MP Alun Cairns called it "another U-turn" – referring to the furore over proposals that could have shut three Vale primary schools.

He said that he had received many letters and emails from worried constituents who were concerned that their children would not be able to be admitted to the same secondary schools as their siblings."

He said he understood that, of the 785 written responses to the consultation exercise, only 22 were in favour of the change.

There were also two petitions with a total of 1,015 signatures objecting to the proposals.

He added: "It is hard to understand why the council would want to change a feeder school system that clearly is accepted by parents as playing a significant role if a secondary school is over-subscribed."

"The Vale Council and Coun Elmore, as cabinet member for children's services, seem to swing from one chaotic saga to another."

Fundraising for young Evie

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)
There will be a fashion show supported by M&CO at the Mount Sorrel Hotel, Barry, on Thursday, April 18, at 7.30pm (Tickets are £10. Available from M&CO, Penarth, or 01446 732835).

On Wednesday, April 24, at 7pm, the Canton RFC Male Voice Choir is giving a concert in the Lower Penarth Community Centre, Brockhill Way, Penarth. Tickets (£5) include tea, coffee and biscuits and are available from Windsor Bookshop, Penarth, Spar

Lavernock, or from Ann Whitfield on 029 20703449. Some tickets will be available at the door.

On May 11, there will be a band and buffet night at the Seashore Grill, Beach Road, Sully. Tickets are £10. Visit the website and email to reserve tickets on www.hopeforevie.co.uk

There will be a boot sale at Llantwit Rugby Club, starting at 8am on Sunday, May 12. Stalls are £5, proceeds to Evie's fund. Telephone 01656 863963 to book a stall.

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VOLUNTEERS DEVELOPING THE WATERFRONT GARDEN

VALE AM, Jane Hutt, paid a visit to the Barry Waterfront Community Garden to meet the volunteers (right) who are developing the garden and providing a much-needed community building for the area.

She commented: "With a grant from the Barry Regeneration Board of £17,000, the team from the Barry uniting churches from Portherry and Windsor Road are busy clearing the site by the Waterfront Medical Centre and planting trees in preparation for the siting of a community building for the area."

Volunteers are welcome to join in developing the community garden on the first Saturday of the month. For further information, contact barry_waterfrontcentre@hotmail.co.uk or Facebook [barrywaterfrontcentre](https://www.facebook.com/barrywaterfrontcentre).



Demo is pretty flash!

IT is almost the end of the Positive Image Photographic Society season, and the standard of visiting lecturers seems to get better and better.

Llanelli's favourite photographer, Graham Harris, did not show PIPS members his photographs, but instead explained how he takes them.

With what seems

decades of experience following rock bands around the country, photographing them from every conceivable angle, our own 'Welsh wizard of flash', makes flash photography seem second nature to him.

Working with just one, or at the most two flash guns, he didn't just tell us how he works, he showed us - demonstrating the effect his lighting arrangements have on the pictures that he creates, from simple 'on camera' flash, through hot shoe units, to remote radio-controlled setups.

To augment the lighting arrangements, he used various types of reflectors, using Alan Roberts and new member Tony Hodge as 'lighting poles', holding flash guns, or reflectors in various positions, as required.

Who was he taking these demo pictures of? Well, Graham is canny where hiring models is

concerned. He married a very pretty young lady, and now Jane comes with him on his demonstrations. By now she knows exactly the pose that accompanies each setup.

The clever part of the demonstration showed us more digital magic, with the camera wired to the laptop, which passes the signal via the digital projector, straight up on the screen for all to see quite comfortably, much better than passing the camera around the audience to look at a small image.

PIPS next show is on April 18, an introduction to digital stereo photography 3-D. PIPS meets on Thursdays at 7.30pm at St Baruc's Church Hall on Barry Island.

Telephone Bernard on 01446 408483, or Guy (chairman) on 01446 751389, for further information. **BB**

CCTV arrests

POLICE arrested seven people following information provided by the Vale Council's CCTV operators, who contacted police a total of 41 times during the week ending March 31.

On March 26, one person was arrested in York Street, Barry, over a warrant and another on Ramsey Road, Barry, on March 27.

On the same day, a person was arrested for an alleged theft on Holton Road, Barry.

Four arrests were made for alleged burglary in Glebe Street, Barry, on March 29.

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After a very busy Easter diary, it's back to business on the economy

IT was a full Easter weekend of events, including the Barry Churches' Good Friday Walk, attracting the crowds along the way and at King's Square, followed by services across the town leading to Easter Day.

There was also much enjoyment for all who took part in the Easter bonnet parade in High Street.

All age groups were represented with some fine bonnets and fancy dress. Thank you to High Street Traders for all their hard work to make this such an enjoyable event.

The crowds were also attracted to Dyffryn Gardens with the

National Trust officially opening on Good Friday with thanks to the Vale Council, Heritage Lottery Fund and Welsh Government.

During my visit on Easter Saturday, I met some of the volunteers who were very enthusiastic about the excellent response over the weekend.

There were over 600 visitors attending on each day and I am sure more were recorded by the end of the day.

It was great to visit Dyffryn House and see the restoration in action, with plenty to enjoy regarding the history of the House and Gardens.

It is good to know that the Observatory is also being promoted in the information about this latest National Trust attraction in Wales.

Last weekend, I was

able to enjoy a walk through Porthkerry Park with the Soroptimists and an excellent evening of entertainment in the Llantorian Hall, Llantwit Major, thanks to the inspiring 'Autumn Sounds', a choir set up with support from the Age Concern Ageing Well initiative.

Well done to all who took part including the soloists, featuring the fine young cellist, Ben Tarlton accompanied by his mother, Sally, who also accompanied the choir throughout the concert.

As I prepare for the next session of the Assembly, I am prioritising our responsibilities to help kickstart the economy with a boost to growth and jobs.

Throughout the Vale, we see the signs of con-

Welsh Assembly Notes



by Vale AM
JANE HUTT
(Minister for Finance and Leader of the House)

struction as a result of Welsh Government public investment. This includes the £47 million Penarth Learning Community, providing first class educational facilities, the new Extra Care housing and next

phase of the Waterfront development in Barry.

The investment we are making in young people through our Jobs Growth Wales programme means more 16-25 year olds have job opportunities, which will also lead to apprenticeships and further educational opportunities – all expanding with Welsh Government support backed by European Structural Funds for which I am now responsible.

Our business start-up programme has helped establish more than 4,080 new enterprises and created more than 10,500 jobs.

From April 1, Welsh Government financial support for local authorities, including the Vale Council, will offset the UK Government's 10 per cent cut to council tax benefit.

This will provide

much needed support to help low income households in work, seeking work or unable to work due to health needs and disabilities.

Our additional financial support to advice services, such as the CAB and Shelter, is vital for many people at this time, with the widespread cuts to benefits and tax credits.

Maintaining our educational maintenance allowances, free prescriptions and free school breakfasts help open up new opportunities for children, young people and families in Wales and help to keep many out of poverty.

Our task in Welsh Government is to boost the economy, support business, invest in our infrastructure, help to create jobs and boost skills, but also to support the vulnerable and those in need.

Vale 'Best Kept Village' contest lands sponsor

THE chairman of the Best Kept Village Competition, Irena Wasilewska, was pleased to welcome Cowbridge Compost as a new sponsor for the Best Kept Village competition.

Irena recently visited the site and was presented with a cheque by Mike Hallett.

Cowbridge Compost has been composting organic wastes at Llwynhelig Farm for over 15 years and the aim is to compost green and food wastes in a sustainable manner, while protecting and enhancing the local environment.

The in-vessel composting facility was built in 2005 and represents best practice in the production and creation of compost.

The facility is able to process 25,000 tons of compost a year and at present converts more than 600 tons of food and green waste per month. (See www.cowbridgecompost.com for details).

For further information on the Best Kept Village competition, contact Carole Alexander on 07751 372537.



Irena Wasilewska with Mike Hallett of Cowbridge Compost.

Police appeal after burglary

A LARGE amount of gold jewellery has been stolen from a house in St Fagans, prompting a police appeal for information.

Five rings, four bangles and bracelets, and two necklaces were stolen during the daytime burglary in Caer Efail, St Fagans, on Friday, March 22.

One of the three missing signet

rings is engraved with the number 21. The other rings include an engagement ring and an eternity ring.

Another distinctive item is a gold necklace with a Southern Cross diamond pendant.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Fairwater CID on 02920 571 542 or Crimestoppers (free and anonymously) on 0800 555 111.

VALE AM's surgery

VALE AM Jane Hutt will be holding a surgery on Friday (April 12), 4pm-6pm at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Trinity Street, in Barry.

Rambling with ravens on Mynydd Tywn-Glas walk

LAST Sunday, eight Vale of Glamorgan Ramblers were led by Peter Lane on a lovely spring morning.

They set off from Llanfach, uphill on good tracks for the first half to 1,442 feet through a forested area.

Once at the top of Mynydd Tywn-Glas, it opened out to moorland for about two miles. The weather wasn't quite as cold as previous weeks, but snow is still lying in some areas.

We stopped for lunch at the top with wonderful views down the valley and the only company we had were a few cyclists and a couple of

ravens riding the thermals.

The group followed an easy descent back through the forest to Llanfach.

There was evidence of an ancient hedgerow, possibly once a parish boundary, which gave us a perfect spot for a group photo.

Next walk: Sunday April 14, 8/9 mile Caerphilly Mountain, meet at Pontyclun Community Centre Car Park ready to leave by 9.30am. For more details, visit the website www.valeofglamorganramblers.co.uk or follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

Leigh Forman

Do you have a bear that would dare?

ST CADOC'S Church (Old Village), Cadoxton, Barry, is again holding a sponsored teddy bear parachute jump - on Sunday, May 5, at 2pm.

A spokeswoman said: "Each bear will undergo a medical in the state-of-the-art first aid tent prior to their jump to ensure they are fit to fly, and on safe landing will be awarded a well-deserved certificate of bravery.

"All parachutes are provided. There will be a prize for the best dressed child's and adult's bear. The event will also include a barbecue, and new this year 'beat the buzzer' and badge making."

The parishioners of St

Cadoc's and St Mary's churches take part in the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas child shoebox appeal, and last year were able to send 642 gift-filled shoeboxes to needy children in eastern Europe.

For some, this would be the only gift received at Christmas time. The parishioners hope to raise as much money as possible to enable them to reach even more children this Christmas.

If you have a bear that would dare, sponsor forms are now available from St Cadoc's (Old Village) Church, Cadoxton, Barry, or telephone 01446 749689.

All proceeds from this event are in aid of the Operation Christmas Child shoebox appeal.

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IN MADEIRA
Madeira's capital, Funchal, enjoys a spectacular hillside setting. It boasts fine Renaissance architecture, cobble streets and smart little squares, and this is where most of the museums, art galleries and markets are to be found. Historical monuments include forts, old churches and the 15th-century St. Catharine. Further afield in the countryside, you can see sugar and banana plantations and vineyards that produce the famous fortified wine. If you're looking for a walking holiday, you'll relish the chance to walk along the network of "levadas" - the paths beside the irrigation channels that criss-cross the land. The staff at Atlantic and Regal Travel have given their top ten reasons to take your holiday in Madeira:

- It's the perfect place for a relaxing break.
- The people are warm and hospitable.
- It has a delightful sub-tropical climate.
- It's known for its natural beauty.
- Funchal, is a hub for culture and the arts.
- There's a rich cultural heritage, Renaissance architecture, monuments and churches.
- It has a tapestry of plantations & vineyards.
- Madeira is famous for its fortified wine.
- The network of "levadas" offers visitors the perfect walking holiday.
- The famous toboggan run from Monte to Funchal is not to be missed.

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School dancers go 'live' at the theatre festival



LEFT: The All Saints Primary School dancers shone at both the Sherman Theatre and the Memorial Hall recently.

THE All Saints Primary School Dancers have recently had the exciting experience of performing before a live audience at the Sherman Theatre's Dance Festival, where the theme was 'Inspiration'.

The following week, they repeated their performance at the Best Foot Forward evening at Barry Memorial Hall, where the theme was 'Musicals'.

They danced a routine to 'I Love To Boogie' from Billy Elliot.

Teacher, Miss Saunders, who trains the All Saints Dancers each year, said she was "very proud" of the pupils' performance and gave a huge 'thank you' to Sophie Clissett, a former pupil, who helped with the choreography.

LM

Local Tories pay tribute to Lady Thatcher

FOLLOWING news of Baroness Thatcher's death earlier on Monday following a stroke, Vale Conservative MP Alun Cairns paid this tribute:

"This is a very sad day and my deepest sympathy goes to her family and close friends. "There is no doubt that Baroness Thatcher transformed the way in which we live our lives economically and socially today."

"Whatever differences of opinion some people may have about her time as Prime Minister and the changes she introduced, they have to accept that those changes were never reversed, even by future Labour governments."

"Margaret Thatcher empowered people to buy their own homes, to gain greater rewards for hard work and made State industries realise that they couldn't survive on subsidies from

the taxpayer.

"Those who have been critical must accept the economic transformation under her leadership – which made Britain a more prosperous, enterprising and independent nation."

'HUGE LOSS FOR ALL' LEADER of the Conservative opposition in the Assembly, Andrew RT Davies, commented: "This is extremely sad news and a huge loss for all."

"Baroness Thatcher put the Great back into Great Britain. She was one of a kind amongst politicians – a truly great leader and a magnificent Prime Minister. "Beyond inspirational, Margaret Thatcher had the charisma and presence to make a real difference in everything she did. The world is a lesser place without her and I send my condolences to her family and all who knew her."

NEWS FROM THE BARRY COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

Students meet a team with world record in their sights



Year-7 students Craig, Cameron, Simon and Morgan with Simon Jones from Science Made Simple.

MARCH 18-24 was National Science and Engineering Week and what better way for Barry Comprehensive pupils to celebrate than to learn about how a team from Swansea University intends to break the world land-speed record?

Their mission is 'to build a car capable of travelling at over 1,000mph and inspire the next generation of scientists and engi-

neers'. Barry Comprehensive School was one of only four schools in the south Wales area to be lucky enough to welcome an expert presenter from Science Made Simple in Cardiff – to talk about 'Bloodhound'.

Years 7 and 8 were chosen, as well as a number of year-5 students from partner primary schools in the area, to form an elite audience and learn about the ways that science and engineering work together to build such an impressive machine.

Students investigated many ideas, such as the challenges in building a vehicle that travels faster than a speeding bullet, what a sonic boom is and the effect of drag.

The shows were enjoyed by all who watched them, especially the science demonstrations and videos of the Bloodhound car.

The team intends to make the world record attempt in December, so make sure that you look out for the Welsh university with the world's fastest car! AC

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Thatcher legacy: 'she changed all our lives'

THIS week's news has been dominated by the passing of Margaret Thatcher. I fully recognised that not everyone supported her policies, but I want to use this week's column to reflect on her influence that can still be felt today.

I had the privilege of meeting her several times. The two most recent occasions stick in my mind; one in March before the 2010 general election, when we chatted about the Vale and she recalled Sir Raymond Gower as the long standing member.

The last time, however, was just six months later, when her mental health had deteriorated

considerably. It was very sad to see, as it is with anyone suffering dementia.

My first engagement was when I wrote to her when I was 12 or 13 years old, while at school. I still have the reply somewhere!

Few would disagree that radical change was needed when she was elected in 1979. Strikes were commonplace, and subsidising national industries was the norm. This situation left a paralysed economy.

Subsidies to industry meant that taxes on families and businesses were higher than they would otherwise have been, leading to an even worse competitive position.

The proportion of people who owned their own home was rel-

atively small and was less than in some of the Soviet eastern bloc countries.

There was the threat of a war with the Soviet Union, which risked all our freedoms.

We were the sick man of Europe and change was needed. Her reforms democratised the unions so that strikes couldn't be called on a simple show of hands. Secret ballots led to very different outcomes and the number of strikes reduced.

National industries were reformed and privatised. British Steel in Port Talbot in the 70s received £1m a week from the taxpayer in subsidies and within a few years after privatisation, taxes on the company's profits were over twice that. Ordinary people became share holders.

One of her most significant changes was to allow and encourage people to buy their own homes, most notably council houses. This had a huge impact on families across the country; their parents before them could only dream of such an opportunity.

Tax levels were reduced to provide greater rewards to working people. It is clear that many of these changes brought about difficulties to many individuals and communities.

Many will pose the question whether the benefits that I have talked about were out-weighed by the fall-out of the policy changes.

For me, the ultimate judgement comes from the actions of

future governments of different colours. The fact remains that even Tony Blair and Gordon Brown, did not reverse the major changes she introduced.

They did not change union ballots, they did not renationalise industries, nor did they block the sale of council homes.

Even Mr Blair admitted this week that he continued in the direction that she had set.

On an international level, no-one would deny her significant role in bringing an end to the Cold War, or her part in bringing down the dreadful dictator, General Galtieri through supporting the right of self-determination of the Falkland Islanders.

Love her or loathe her, she changed all our lives.



Vale MP
Alun Cairns
reports to
GEM readers

BARRY CADETS TAKE FIRST AID COURSE

RECENTLY, eight Air Cadets from 372 (Barry) Squadron successfully achieved their youth first aid qualification (YFA).

The course combined a mix of classroom lectures with hands-on training and a series of practical scenarios for the cadets to put into practice their new skills.

The cadets' training over two days covered asthma, bites and stings, bleeding, shock, bone, muscle and joint injuries, burns and scalds, chest pains, choking, casualty care, heat exhaustion, hypothermia, recovery



ELLIE POULAKIS

position and resuscitation (adult).

The cadets who passed were: Jordan Saunders, Vicky Williams, Jake Paterson, Ellie and Zena Poulakis, Jamie-Leigh Bird, Pippa

Cowles and Chloe Swain.

Jake Paterson said: "I really enjoyed the course and it was fun. I believe that everyone should learn first aid, as it could potentially save someone's life."

If you have a spirit for adventure, 372 Squadron has vacancies for boys and girls between 13 - 18 years old. The Squadron parade on Mondays and Wednesdays 7pm - 9.30pm behind Adams Funeral Parlour (by the Memorial Hall) or contact the Squadron on 01446 747734 or email oc.372@aircadets.org.

JH

£75 FINES IN VALE

LOCAL authority support company XF0R issued 25 fixed penalty notices in the Vale of Glamorgan during the week commencing April 1.

XF0R officers are taking a zero tolerance approach to dog fouling and littering, and offenders are issued with a fixed penalty notice of £75 without warning.

Cheeky Monkeys' enjoy Easter fun

EGG loads of fun was had by all the people at the Cheeky Monkeys' parent and toddler Easter party; with an Easter bonnet parade, crafts, a disco and party games, and an Easter egg hunt.

Cheeky Monkeys is a toddler group held at St Francis Millennium Centre every Wednesday from 12:45pm - 2:45pm.

The Easter party was one of many special events held by Cheeky Monkeys; regular updates regarding forthcoming events can be found on their Facebook page: www.facebook.com/CheekyMonkeysBarry.

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Former boss returns to take charge at the Cardiff Airport

THE Welsh Government has turned to an 'old boy' - former boss Jon Horne - to take on the task of reviving the struggling Cardiff Airport.

Announcing the appointment, Lord Rowe-Beddoe, Chairman of Cardiff Airport, said: "I am delighted that Jon Horne will be the new Chief Executive Officer of Cardiff International Airport Ltd.

"His wide experience of the airport industry and his specific experience of running Cardiff Airport during a very successful period, will be vital in the task of turning around the fortunes of Wales' national airport by developing more airline services and destinations for the people of Wales."

Jon Horne, who is well known in the aviation industry and Welsh business community, was managing director at Cardiff Airport from 2001 to 2007 and has previously held senior positions at London City Airport and Sheffield City Airport.

He returns to Cardiff Airport from being a partner in Airport Investment and Enterprise LLP. In his new role, Mr Horne will lead the airport team in managing the business, and will oversee the development and delivery of the airport's business plan.

He said: "I am delighted at being given the opportunity to take charge of Cardiff Airport once again at this

very exciting time, and I will do everything I possibly can to deliver an airport of which the people of Wales can once again be rightfully proud. I recognise the task will not be an easy one, nor will it happen overnight, but I will not spare any effort in addressing challenges ahead.

"Some plans are already in place and others will be developed over the coming weeks and months, but we shall also be listening to what people want from their airport, what businesses want, and understanding how this can be most successfully delivered.

"The potential clearly still exists for Cardiff Airport to play a leading role in the future economic success of Wales, and also to deliver the air services and destinations that will attract back those passengers who currently have to fly from airports outside Wales."

Mr Horne's appointment was welcomed by the Minister for Economy, Science and Transport, Edwina Hart.

She said: "The appointment of Jon Horne as chief executive, following on from last week's announcement of Lord Rowe-Beddoe as chairman of the board of Cardiff Airport, puts in place a strong and experienced leadership for the existing directors and management team at the airport."

The story of Hut 9 at Island Farm event



LEFT: Group members Jonathan Hicks, Richard Williams and Barry Ward, entertained visitors to the Hut 9 Preservation Group stand.

MEMBERS of the Hut 9 Preservation Group took part in the Bridgend Heritage Day on Saturday, organised by the Reach team at Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) and were delighted with the interest shown by visitors in their work.

The group was set up last December by a group of local historians and archaeologists who,

working in partnership with conservation officers from BCBC, intend to restore the sole remaining hut of the Island Farm World War 2 prisoner-of-war camp to its former state.

They will tell the story of its occupation by munitions workers at the nearby Bridgend Ordnance Factory, through its time as a British Army barracks, to the American GI occupation prior to D-Day, and thence to its most famous occupants - the German officers who escaped from the camp in March 1945.

The chairman of the group, Dr Jonathan Hicks said:

"Although the event only lasted for four hours, we received a non-stop flood of visitors, all of whom said how essential it is that this important piece of military history in south Wales is preserved and opened to the public.

"We were also pleased to interview a gentleman who was 15 at the time of the famous 'German Great Escape' from Hut 9, and who remembers visiting the camp to see the spot from where they escaped.

"We were able to record his memories for future use.

"Our next step is to submit a bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund which will allow us to restore the hut and set it out as it would have been during its phases of occupation.

"Then we will be able to open it to school parties and the general public to view."

Forces charity gets re-branded

THE mid Glamorgan branch of military charity, SSAFA Forces Help, has changed its name to SSAFA - as part of a rebrand aimed at "improving awareness of the charity among members of the Forces community".

It is designed to help SSAFA reach more clients by describing the charity, and the

support it provides, in a more clear and consistent way, a spokesman said.

"This is particularly important at a local level, where SSAFA's teams of trained volunteers work hard to ensure that help and advice are always close at hand.

"Last year alone, the mid-Glamorgan branch supported 150 veterans and their families in our community.

"A recent brand audit found that many people thought the

charity needed to modernise its identity to better reach its key audiences.

"The charity is increasingly helping younger veterans, many of whom are in their 20s and 30s.

"Families have always been at the heart of what SSAFA does and they have been put at the centre of the brand.

"The change of name is supported by a modern new logo with a three-colour underline to represent the charity's

lifelong support to the Navy, Army and RAF."

Maj John Charles DL TD, chairman of SSAFA mid Glamorgan said: "These changes follow a long period of consultation with volunteers and staff, as well as members of the military community.

"SSAFA has supported our Forces and their families for more than 125 years but the work we do now is more vital than ever before," Major Charles stressed.

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Police launch mobile stations

ON Friday, April 1, South Wales Police launched their two new mobile police stations at Margam Country Park.

This was alongside the 53rd National Police Dog Trials, which the force is hosting.

The mobile police stations will be in operation from Monday, April 15 and serve communities across the force area from Merthyr Tydfil to Penarth, Cardiff and the Gower.

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Usk Valley walk is steeped in history

A NEW circular walk in a rural landscape linking three villages in the Usk Valley, was thoroughly enjoyed by a group of 21 Penarth & district Ramblers, who joined leader Joy on Easter Saturday to celebrate the group's 20th birthday.

Each person has their own skill and it was Rachel's knack of untangling the many knots in rope that held gates firmly shut that was greatly appreciated.

Clambering over a variety of stiles towards the River Usk, the group enjoyed morning coffee at Tredunnoch, where St Andrew's Church was open and being adorned with flowers for the service the following day.

Inside is a Roman tablet, inscribed in Latin, dedicated by the wife of a soldier in the Second Augustan Legion, and in the churchyard the grave of Isabella Gill, whose father Sir John Franklin was credited with discovering the Northwest Passage, even though he and 128 comrades sadly lost their lives when their two ships became icebound.

Crossing ploughed fields and pastures containing sheep and spring lambs, the group met the river on two occasions as it curved through the valley before following the road towards Llanhenock, passing the majestic Glen Usk, which overlooks the Celtic Manor golf course and the Wentwood escarpment where Kemeys Folly, a Gothic turret built in 1712 by George Kemeys as a hunting lodge with views to the Black Mountains and over the Bristol Channel, was in clear view.

The original Glen Usk dates to 1824 and the gardens were laid out from 1820 by Sir Digby Mackworth, whose family were local landowners and, as there was no coach road leading to the house, Sir Digby created one which runs for around three miles to the village and the original lodge still stands at the gate.

The group passed Pencraig, now a farm but originally an Elizabethan house which held a secret priest's hole where during the Reformation, priests hid as the area was staunchly Royalist and therefore Catholic.

Opposite stands what is left of the Caerydor Oak, which originally stood 70-foot tall with a

girth of 38.5-feet. On special occasions it was decorated by yellow ribbons while the villagers danced and sang around it.

The church at Llanhenock, which is dedicated to St John the Baptist, was reached in time for lunch as the wind began to pick up and the temperature soon dropped.

Glad to be moving once more, the group crossed undulating fields and a couple of fairly quiet roads to make their way back to Llangybi where they enjoyed a nogg in the White Hart with its welcoming roaring fire and, having toasted the group's birthday and continued success, they made their way home.

On April 13, meet at 9am at Cogan Leisure Centre for an 11.5-mile mod/hard joint walk with the Caerphilly group to Rhiwderin; contact Rachel on 01446 410545.

On April 14, meet at 9am at Barry Waterfront for a 10-mile mod/hard walk on south Gower; contact Joy on 01446 737131.

On April 16, the mid-week walk will leave Cogan at 9.30am for an eight-mile moderate walk at Llandegfedd; contact Anne on 0773275077.

Train abuse: public appeal

BRITISH Transport Police (BTP) are appealing for information after a female member of rail staff was verbally abused by a passenger on board a train between Penarth and Bargoed at 4.30pm - 5.30pm on Saturday, April 6.

Investigating officer, Sgt Jonathan Cooze, said: "Members of staff doing their job do not deserve to be subjected to abuse of any description from passengers."

Behaviour such as this is completely unacceptable.

"This was a busy train and I believe that a number of passengers on board will have witnessed the incident. I would therefore ask anyone with any information, which they believe can assist the investigation, to contact BTP in confidence."

Contact British Transport Police on 0800 40 50 40, or the independent charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111. Please quote reference B6/WWA of 09/04/2013.

Human remains are identified

POLICE this week confirmed that remains discovered on Sunday morning in Silog Forestry, Talbot Green, were those of missing Pontyclun man, Neil Jones, who was last seen on August 13, 2011.

"There are not thought to be any suspicious circumstances surrounding the incident and officers will now prepare a file of evidence for the Coroner. The next of kin has been informed" a spokesman said.

Tax help for older people

THE next income tax surgery, to offer free professional help and advice to those with income tax queries or problems, will be held at Pencoed Library on Tuesday, April 30.

Monthly surgeries are held at Age Concern offices in Barry, Llantwit Major, and Cowbridge. To book an appointment or to access helpline (many queries can be answered by phone) telephone 08456013321.

VALE MP HEARS OF LEGION'S UNSUNG WORK IN WALES

THE Royal British Legion has thanked Alun Cairns, MP for Vale of Glamorgan for making the time to meet new Legion Area Manager for Wales, Phil Jones, along with Legion volunteers Samantha Bowen and Andy Davies.

The Legion is the leading provider of welfare for the Armed Forces community in the Vale. Mr Cairns recently attended an event in Parliament dedicated to seeing some of the Legion's work in the Vale.

The Vale Council was the first in Wales to sign up to the Armed Forces Covenant.

The Royal British Legion provides care and support to all members of the British Armed Forces, past and present, and their families. That care and support can come in many forms, whether it be direct financial aid; benefits and money advice; adventure holidays in the UK for Armed Forces families who need a break; or helping an elderly or disabled veteran with a trusted handyman facility to



ABOVE: Alun Cairns MP with Phil Jones, Royal British Legion Manager for Wales.

help with odd-jobs in the home. These are just some of the many, many services the Legion offers as way of support to the Armed Forces community.

The 2012 Poppy Appeal in Wales raised £1.7m and in 2011/12 the Legion's Benefits and Money advice service secured over £3.5m for beneficiaries in

Wales. Mr Jones said: "We were delighted to welcome Alun Cairns to our event. Many people don't realise the work the Legion does locally to support the Serving and ex-Service communities, plus their families, so we were delighted to tell him about the range of services we provide."

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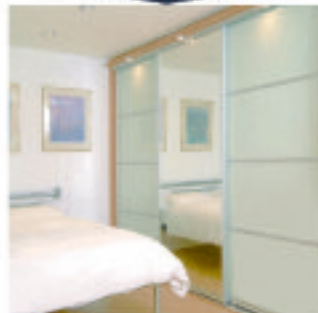


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Inspirational Homes and Gardens

£19M COST OF DAMAGE TO NEW HOMES BY TREES

NEARLY £19 million of damage has been caused to new homes by trees over the last five years, according to figures released by NHBC.

The leading warranty provider and standard setting body for new-build homes is so concerned by the scale of the claims that it has issued new guidance to home owners advising them of the best practice when planting trees close to their homes.

The figures show that nearly £19 million of claims was made by owners of new homes for damage to their property caused by trees between 2008 and 2012.

Last year alone, NHBC paid out £2.3 million in claims following structural damage caused by trees.

As spring beckons, NHBC's new guide offers practical advice to anyone thinking about planting new trees and shrubs or cutting back existing ones. Tips for homeowners include how to calculate a suitable planting distance away from houses, and where to go to check if the tree is protected.

Peter Crane, NHBC's head of technical standards, said: "New greenery can create a more attractive garden as well as provide privacy and can help in reducing noise from a busy road. But roots and branches can also cause expensive damage to homes as our figures show."

"When an established tree is removed or a new one is added, it can affect the moisture content of the surrounding soil. In clay soils, this can cause swelling of the ground or shrinkage. "This movement can potentially result in damage to the house foundations due to subsidence or heave, particularly where the foundations have not been designed with trees in mind."

"If the tree was added or removed before the house was sold by the builder, NHBC's Buildmark warranty may provide protection. "However, if the tree was removed or planted by the homeowner subsequently, NHBC cannot provide cover and the household insurance may also not cover the damage."

"This is an ideal time of year to start planting trees and shrubs ahead of those lazy summer days in the garden. "But anyone thinking about planting new trees or shrubs should spare a thought for their home and their neighbours by getting an expert opinion before planting."

in damage to the house foundations due to subsidence or heave, particularly where the foundations have not been designed with trees in mind. "If the tree was added or removed before the house was sold by the builder, NHBC's Buildmark warranty may provide protection. "However, if the tree was removed or planted by the homeowner subsequently, NHBC cannot provide cover and the household insurance may also not cover the damage."

increase in March, as 26 percent more surveyors reported rises rather than falls in new instructions. This was "a massive improvement" on February's negative reading, which saw a net balance of seven percent more surveyors reporting decreases rather than increases in new instructions in Wales.

Meanwhile, chartered surveyors across Wales reported no movement in prices during March (CONTINUED ON PAGE 16)

House sales in Wales are 'holding steady' – housing market survey

THE number of houses sold in Wales remained at a high level for the third consecutive month, as increased confidence in the market continued to translate into sales, according to the latest RICS housing market survey (April 9).

In the three months to March, chartered surveyors in Wales sold an average of 16 homes, which was no change from February's figure.

A spokesperson said confidence had been slowly returning to the UK housing market since the summer of 2012 and transaction levels had been consistently high for three consecutive months.

This had been mirrored by the number of homes coming onto the market, which took an

increase in March, as 26 percent more surveyors reported rises rather than falls in new instructions.

This was "a massive improvement" on February's negative reading, which saw a net balance of seven percent more surveyors reporting decreases rather than increases in new instructions in Wales.

Meanwhile, chartered surveyors across Wales reported no movement in prices during March

from the previous month as, once again, a net balance of six percent more respondents reported price falls rather than rises over the last three months.

Moving on to demand, there was a slight increase in the number of prospective buyers who got out and viewed property during March, as a net balance of four percent more surveyors reported rises in new buyer enquiries.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 16)

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Ewenny Garden Centre – **Ewenny Road**,
Ewenny – Retention of four log cabins for purposes ancillary to the

existing A1 use; retention of a log cabin as a holistic therapy room (D1), and timber cladding structure to

principal elevation. Provision of two log cabins for purposes ancillary to the existing A1 use, a canopy and overflow car park.

Demolition of outhouse and replacement with ground floor kitchen. Mr Peter Marriott – **Woodlands Cottage, Llandough, Cowbridge** – Extension and alterations to dwelling, including a new roof construction and access, plus demolition of existing extensions.

Mrs Jennings – **6 High Meadow, Llantwit Major** – Conservatory to the rear elevation. Miss Bethame Binding – **Land off Argae Lane, Dinas Powys** – Vehicle turning hardstand and the erection of a horse stable on pasture land.

Mr Ben Doonan – **11 Marine Parade, Penarth** – Reduce and reshape bay tree, pollard by approximately one third three lime trees, fell one lime tree and one Holm oak and reduce and reshape one holly tree. Fitz Project Management – **10 Aneurin Road, Barry** –

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Survival is the 'bee all and end all' in the colonies...

NEWS FROM THE FONMON APIARY

SPRING is at last beginning to show; celandines, primroses, and dandelions are appearing in greater numbers, and even the Blackthorn is showing faint traces of white blossom.

The bees are active, but the chill east winds are preventing foraging on a regular basis from taking place. On days when the sun has put in an appearance for any length of time, bees have ventured out.

However, unless we get a change in the weather pattern, i.e. warmer, I will have to continue with the feeding of all colonies. A

great provider of pollen and nectar for the bees here at Fonmon would have been the oilseed rape, but due to very unseasonable conditions, it is not showing any sign of normal growth yet.

Some of it may well even fail altogether.

Several members of the beekeeping fraternity are reporting losses of colonies, and this is mainly due to the prolonged winter.

Those of us who have colonies surviving may well be able to help out when, and if, our own bees begin to expand – that is, the Queens start laying and

external sources of pollen and nectar become available.

As I have often pointed out, the weather is the dominating factor – last year's weather certainly disrupted the country as a whole and everyone suffered to some degree.

Many factors are working against the survival of the honeybee at present. Indeed, the fate of many pollinating insects is in the balance; should they disappear from the face of the earth our diets will change dramatically.

What is causing this decline? I have some idea myself, but until

the various trials and governmental bodies put together their data and reach definitive conclusions and, of course, make them available for all to read and digest, I will have to keep my ideas to myself.

Cardiff Beekeeping Society now have beginners' courses under way. It is hoped that those new to the management of honeybees will not become too dismayed if their first foray into beekeeping does not provide them with some honey by the year's end.

Those who do take up the craft, are entering at a very challenging time, and even seasoned beekeepers are not always on top of the challenges.

So, as Shakespeare put it, "Once more to the breach, dear friends, once more."

I for one will certainly be striving to ensure the survival of honeybees and all insects – be they pollinators or no.

Harold Williams

Market 'holds steady'

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15)

It seems that the Government's recent efforts to encourage banks to offer more affordable mortgages may now be starting the bear fight and assuage purchasers.

Looking ahead, respondents are optimistic that the recent increase in

transactions is set to continue. A net balance of 24 per cent more surveyors expect sales to rise even further over the coming three months.

Also, Welsh chartered surveyors are optimistic that the price stability seen in recent months will persist over the coming three months.

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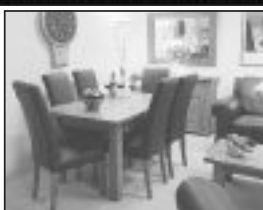
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Now, to improve the store for the future, we will undertake an extensive showroom remerchandising & updating project including new interior decor and external fascia paintwork and new displays and ranges. We must clear the floor without delay, so that this major work may commence. The store is presently closed while we reduce prices and prepare the displays for the launch of our **£695,000 REFURBISHING & UPDATING GRAND FURNITURE SALE.**

We must urgently sell all our beds, furniture and accessories including: Easy chairs, recliner suites, riser recliners, dining tables & chairs, sideboards, nests of tables, bookcases, coffee tables, wardrobes, chests, beds, bedframes, adjustable electric beds, mattresses, headboards, pillows, rugs, mirrors, etc., etc... **Absolutely Everything Must Be Sold Out a.s.a.p!**

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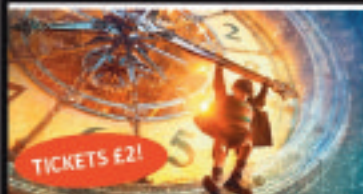
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Out and About with The GEM

G.I. Joe's second outing is brash, dumb (and a little fun!)

THERE are many things in life that send a chill to the very marrow of my bones; the thought of starting my Christmas shopping on December 24, cats, and having to watch episodes of *The Only Way is Essex* until the end of time.

However, all of these are infinitely more appealing than the thought of having to sit through *G.I. Joe: Rise of the Cobra* again.

An unmitigated vapid mess of a film, it is two hours that neither myself, nor anyone who has seen it, will ever get back. That a sequel was on the cards was another scary thought; however *G.I. Joe: Retaliation* has ditched original director Stephen Sommers and much of the cast, and brought on board both Dwayne Johnson and Bruce Willis.

This time round, the Joes (numbering, among others, Johnson's Roadblock and Adrienne Palicki's Lady Jaye) are forced to battle not just the evil Cobra organisation but also the American government, when they are ambushed and accused of being traitors to their country.

The surviving Joes must find out what has

happened and stop the world from bring taken over by a familiar face...

It's safe to say that any expectation level I had for *G.I. Joe*:

Retaliation was tempered somewhat by the fact that it had jettisoned its director and cast and was moving on to make a fresh start; and, to be fair, it is a successful one to a point, as the elements that made the first outing so intensely hateful (farewell the 'comic relief' of Marlon Wayans) have been stripped.

The result is a slight, generally entertaining film that does exactly what you would expect it to do with as little subtlety as you would imagine, and makes for a pretty diverting 110 minutes of cinema.

Your life won't change as a result of it (no matter how big a G.I. Joe fan you are), and you won't remember it by the time the credits roll, but for entertainment that makes most 'mindless' offerings look like Tolstoy, it works.

The change in the director's chair helps, with John M Chu stripping back Stephen Sommers' ridiculous tendencies and grounding the film as much as you can when it involves nanobot technology and massive underground prisons.

His work on the likes



by **GARETH JAMIESON**

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of *Step Up 3D* has shown he can be a visually interesting director without having to worry about things like character development and logical plotting.

So it goes here, the film ticking all the action movie boxes and delivering explosions, shoot-outs and as much bloodless violence as a 12A film can muster, with one sequence, involving a ninja battle across mountain tops, very impressively handled.

The script is as one-note and anodyne as you would expect, dealing in generic 'world domination' territory with very little originality, while the characters manage to avoid undergoing anything like a journey.

Only Adrienne Palicki's Jaye and Byung-hun Lee's Storm Shadow have some sem-

blance of characterisation, while some, like D.J. Cotrona's Flint, have barely any importance and even less personality.

Thankfully, the film's saving grace comes in the hulking shape of Dwayne Johnson, who, while on nowhere near the form he has shown in the likes of *Fast Five*, has just about enough charisma to give the character of Roadblock something that is definitely not on the page, the actor in his physical element.

Similarly Bruce Willis' extended cameo as G.I. Joe himself sees the actor hardly extending himself, but Willis offers a nod and a wink that at least shows the film isn't afraid of taking itself seriously – and that is perhaps the biggest saver for *G.I. Joe: Retaliation*, that it's a film that knows it's nothing more than a popcorn film with little smarts and plenty of brawn.

On those terms, it can be viewed as a success.

VERDICT -

Intelligent blockbuster? Go elsewhere, but for an idiotic action movie that promises little but delivers enough, *G.I. Joe: Retaliation* isn't half bad. There are no points for its ridiculous script nor acting, but plenty for providing dumb entertainment that doesn't linger. Average.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Shoot 'Em Up* (2007), *Independence Day* (1996)

Micro-chip your dog for free

THE Dogs Trust rehoming centre in Bridgend is teaming up with a Barry pet store for a canine welfare event.

Dog owners in the area can have their dog microchipped for free, and they can make an appointment to take advantage of a reduced fee for neutering their pet.

Dogs Trust will be at Pets R Us, 1A, Regent Street, Barry, CF62 8DS, on Monday, May 13 (11am–3.30pm), and Tuesday, May 14 (11am–3.30pm).



Llangeinor Hunt Point-to-Point to be held on **Saturday 20th April** First Race 2.00 pm
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Cowbridge concert

THIS Saturday (April 11) at 7.30pm in Cowbridge Town Hall, St Donat's Atlantic Chorale will be joined by guest soprano Shoshana Pavett to open their 2013 programme with 'Songs from Stage and Screen'.

Ward advice
LABOUR Vale and Barry town councillors for Castledare Ward, Chris Elmore, Pamela Drake, Les Sword and Karl Kuhnell, will be holding an advice surgery on Saturday (April 13) in the Drop-In Centre, Castledare Community Centre, Belvedere Crescent, Barry, from 10.30am until 12pm. No appointment necessary. Contact Coun Chris Elmore on 01446 450007, or 07867 506116.

Car boot

ROMILLY Primary School, on Romilly Road, Barry, is holding a car boot sale in the playground on Saturday, April 13 from 2pm–4pm.

Stalls and activities, refreshments. The event is organised by the Romilly School PTA, with all proceeds going towards the school.

Tractor road run

THE Tractor Boys of Aberthryn, in conjunction with the Blacksmith's Arms, Llanmaes, are holding a tractor road run on April 14 in memory of Carol Ann Pitts, who sadly passed away recently.

All proceeds will go to the Marie Curie Hospice at Penarth; starting from Arthur John car park, Cowbridge, CF7 7YG. Gate open 8.30am for 10am start. Tea and coffee to start; lunch break at the Blacksmith's Arms.

Wartime museum

THE Glamorgan Wartime Heritage Centre, based on Barry Island Railway Station, will be open on Sunday, April 14 at 11am and on Wednesdays at 2pm. Admission is free.

Age Concern spring fayre
AGE CONCERN Cardiff and Vale is holding a spring fayre at the Senior Health Shop on Tuesday, April 16.

It will be opened by Coun Les Sword at 10am.

There will also be a raffle and refreshments will be on sale.

Admission is free. Contact 01446 732385 for further information.

Ewenny concert

EWENNY Arts Festival at Ewenny Priory Church presents Kenfig Hill and District Male Voice Choir and soloists in concert on April 18 at 7.30pm.

Musical director, Philip Juliff, with accompanists Andrew Chinnock and Beryl Evans.

Tickets on 01656 653020; 667047; 664105 or www.ewennyfestival.co.uk.

Spring farce

ON April 18, 19 and 20, Dinas Powys Players present the farce *Tons of Money* at the Parish Hall, Britway Road, at 7.30pm.

Telephone 02920 512868 or 02921 406168.

Art society

ON Thursday, April 18, Cowbridge Art Society welcomes Abergavenny artist Helen Langford, who will give a demonstration of painting a landscape with acrylics (see www.helenlangfordartist.co.uk).

The society meets on Thursday evenings at the Old Hall, Cowbridge, 7pm–9pm. Visitors welcome. For full programme, see www.cowbridgeartsociety.com.

PTA quiz

COWBRIDGE Comprehensive School PTA quiz with cheese and wine on Friday, April 19 at 7pm at the school.

Tickets £8 per head, available from the school reception or Xantippe in Cowbridge. Call 07979148939 for details.

Penarth coffee

A COFFEE morning will be held in All Saints Church, Lesser Hall, Victoria Square, Penarth, on Saturday, April 20, 10am–12 noon.

Entry £1 to include tea/coffee and a Welsh cake; stalls. All proceeds to Parkinson's Cymru.

Porthcawl Buckaneers

THE theme for the Porthcawl Buckaneers Carnival on July 20 is 'TV shows'.

Anyone wishing to enter a float or as walkers, should contact Kerry Marlow on 01656 771457, or email marlowk@sky.com.

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number

● **£2,000:** 564958.

● **The rollover, which now stands at £11,500, was not won this week.**

● **£10:** 395650, 173148, 976586, 844887, 342404, 440142, 328885, 790297, 626289, 122291, 472149, 963916, 112978, 538239, 488332, 738787, 673012, 777166.

● **£5:** 540022, 209159, 406921, 475487, 675394, 867316, 291861, 563372, 166138, 387167, 440631, 534865, 309898, 412062, 551274, 207827, 655809, 736874, 848308, 601153, 716308, 802214, 409196, 241786, 566939, 468775, 800182, 188604, 492240, 202180, 159672, 382511, 274948, 367625, 566493, 560090, 786169, 206886, 848933, 522274.

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PACT meetings

PETERSTON-SUPER-ELY PACT, Pendoylan School on April 11 at 7.45pm.

COWBRIDGE PACT, Cowbridge Fire Station, April 15 at 7pm.

ST AUGUSTINES PACT, The Windsor Public House, Windsor Road, Penarth on April 17 at 7pm.

DINAS POWYS PACT, St Mary's Church Hall, Edith

Road, April 22 at 7pm.

GIBBONSDOWN PACT, The Residents' Board Office, 28

Coychurch Rise, Barry, April 23 at 10.30am.

DYFAN PACT, North Walk Community Centre, North Walk, Barry, on April 28, 7pm.

CASTLELAND PACT, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry, April 29 at 7pm.

Llantwit Major Surf Life Saving Club...

Calling All Members Past and Present...

In 2013, LMSLSC are celebrating 50 years of life saving and to honour this key milestone in our clubs history, we are holding a black tie dinner/dance at MoD St Athan on Saturday 28th September.

We would love to invite all those that have been members, who have given up their own time and been part of this great club's history over the years to join in the celebrations with us.

Tickets are £50 per person, which includes pre-dinner drinks, a 3-course dinner and live music from Big Mac's Wholly Soul Band.

It wouldn't be the same without you, so if you would like to purchase tickets please email lmslsc_social@hotmail.com



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Capel Calfaria, Barry - £134,950
Chapel conversion basement apartment. Open plan living, entrance hallway, modern fitted kitchen, built-in fridge/freezer, dishwasher. Dining area. Lounge area. Master bedroom with en suite bathroom, further double bedroom with en suite shower room. Separate wc. Two parking spaces.



Lakin Drive, Barry - £138,950
Two bedroom semi detached. Highlight Park development. Entrance hall, lounge. Modern fitted kitchen/diner. Conservatory. Driveway with off road parking for 2 vehicles. Single garage. Enclosed rear garden. Walking distance of supermarket, pharmacy, community centre, doctor's surgery and schools.



Gladstone Road, Barry - £152,950
Three bedroom traditional, bay fronted, end terrace. Hallway, lounge through dining room, kitchen. Family bathroom to first floor. Loft room. upvc DG. Gas CH. Enclosed rear garden and large garage. Close to all local amenities including schools, shops and bus routes. EPC rating: D. No chain.



Gladstone Road, Barry - £156,500
Four bedroom bay fronted mid terrace. Porch, hallway, lounge through dining room. Gallery style kitchen. Family bathroom and en suite to bedroom four. upvc DG. Gas CH. Enclosed rear garden. Partial far reaching sea views from 1st and 2nd floors. Close to all local amenities. EPC rating: C.



Blackberry Drive, Barry - £164,950
Three bedroom detached. West End of Barry. Hallway, lounge/dining room. Further reception room/bedroom four (converted garage). Kitchen/breakfast room. Downstairs wc. Family bathroom with jacuzzi. Ensuite shower room to master bedroom. upvc DG. Gas CH. Enclosed rear garden. Off road parking. No chain.



Guthrie Street, Barry - £87,000
Three bedroom mid terrace. Would benefit from upgrading. Hallway, lounge, kitchen/diner. First floor bathroom. Enclosed rear garden. Walking distance of Barry town main shopping centre and Holton Road Primary School. Close to train station with links to Cardiff, Bridgend and Barry Island. No chain.



Coach House, Holton Road, Barry - £69,995
One bedroom detached. Porch, kitchen, living area, bedroom, bathroom. Gas CH. DG. Easy access to train station link to Cardiff. Walking distance of Holton Road and local primary schools. EPC rating: D/E. Would suit first time buyer/investor. No chain.



Greenwood Street, Barry - £94,950
Two double bedroom end terrace. Hallway, two reception rooms, kitchen, upstairs bathroom. Gas CH. upvc DG. Enclosed rear garden with patio and lawn areas. Close to all local amenities. Walking distance of Barry Dock train station. No chain.



Howard Court, Barry - £104,950
Well presented two bedroom first floor apartment situated on Pontypridd Road in West End of Barry. Hallway, lounge/dining room, kitchen. Bathroom. Separate wc. upvc DG. Gas CH. Benefiting from a garage to the rear of building in a block. EPC rating: D/D. No chain.



Paget Heights, Barry - £109,950
Luxury 1st floor one bedroom apartment. Views across Barry Island, Bristol Channel and beyond. Modern kitchen, luxury bathroom with shower. Fully double glazed. Video/sound entry system with gate operation to rear. Parking space for each apartment. Service charge £1,080 per annum. Leashold 999 yrs.



Clive Road, Barry - £116,500
Three bedroom mid terrace property on Barry Island. Views across the Waterfront. Hallway, lounge, through dining room, kitchen/breakfast room. Rear lobby. Ground floor bathroom. upvc DG. Gas CH. Enclosed rear garden. Walking distance to Barry Island beach and Jackson's Bay, shops, schools. EPC rating: C/C.



Dyfan Road, Barry - £126,500
Three bedroom semi detached. Situated in central Barry. Hallway, two reception rooms, kitchen/breakfast room. Utility room. Storage room. Bathroom and separate wc to 1st floor. upvc DG. Gas CH. gardens to front, side and rear. Off road parking for 2 vehicles. Close to local amenities/bus route.



Rowan Court, Barry - £132,500
Three bedroom maisonette. Views across the Bristol Channel. Romilly Park, Knap Beach. Hallway, lounge. Enclosed balcony, kitchen. Cloakroom with wc/bathroom. upvc DG. Gas CH. Communal gardens to front/rear. Walking distance to shops and Barry train station. EPC rating: D/D. No chain.



Porthkerry Road, Barry - £135,000
Three bedroom end terrace property. West End of Barry. Open porch, hallway, lounge, sitting room, dining room, kitchen. First floor bathroom. upvc DG. Gas CH via combi boiler. Enclosed courtyard and enclosed forecourt. Close to local amenities. Walking distance of shops. EPC rating: F. No chain.



Paget Heights, Barry - £159,950
Luxury 2nd floor two bedroom apartment. Views across Barry Island, Bristol Channel and beyond. Modern kitchen, luxury bathroom with shower. Fully double glazed. Video/sound entry system with gate operation to rear. Parking space for each apartment. Service charge £1,080 per annum. Leashold 999 yrs.



Heol Sirhwi, Barry - £184,950
Three bedroom link detached. Cul de sac location. Cwm Talwg development. West End of Barry. Hallway, lounge, dining room, kitchen, utility room. Wet room and separate wc to ground floor. Family bathroom. upvc DG. Gas CH. Garage and driveway, gardens front and rear. No chain.



Min y Mor, Barry - £254,950
Three bedroom semi detached. Partial views of Bristol Channel. Entrance porch, entrance hallway, two reception rooms, kitchen, utility area. Downstairs wc. Conservatory. Bedrooms, bathroom and separate wc to 1st floor. Gas CH. Partially upvc DG. Enclosed rear garden. EPC rating: D.



St James Crescent, Barry - £325,000
Executive four bedroom detached. Cul de sac location. Views over open countryside. Hallway, lounge, dining room, study. Conservatory. Kitchen breakfast room, utility room. Downstairs wc. Family bathroom. En suite. upvc DG. Gas CH. Enclosed rear garden with summer house. EPC rating: D/D.



Lewis Street, Barry - £134,950
Three bedroom. West End of Barry. Porch, hallway, lounge, dining room, kitchen, shower room and separate wc. Electric storage heaters. Enclosed rear garden and forecourt. Close to local amenities and Porthkerry Country Park. EPC rating: D/E. No chain.



Plas Gwernen, Barry - £138,950
Two bedroom semi detached. Cul de sac location. Pencoeatre Village development. Entrance hallway, lounge/dining room, kitchen/breakfast room. Downstairs wc. Family bathroom. upvc DG. Gas CH. Enclosed rear garden. Off road parking. EPC rating: C.



Port Road West, Barry - £179,950
Three bedroom semi detached. North of Barry. Porch, hallway, lounge through dining room. Kitchen. Lean to conservatory. Family bathroom. upvc DG. Gas CH. Gardens to front and rear. Driveway with off road parking. Walking distance to schools, shops, etc. EPC rating: C/C. No chain.



Barry Road, Barry - £196,950
Detached three bedroom cottage. Entrance porch. Lounge/dining room, kitchen/breakfast room. upvc DG conservatory. Utility room. Downstairs bathroom with separate shower. upvc DG. Gas CH. Enclosed gardens to front and rear. Off road parking for 2/3 cars. EPC rating: E.



2 Maes Glas, Barry - £249,950
Extended four bedroom detached. Entrance hallway. Extended lounge with addition of bay window. Dining room. Snug (garage conversion). Kitchen/family room. Utility room. Downstairs wc. Family bathroom and en suite shower room. upvc DG. Gas CH. Gardens to front and rear. Off road parking. EPC rating: D/D.



Decca Springfield Cottage, Llancarfan - £259,950
Set between Llancarfan and Bonvilston. Extended three double bedroom semi detached bungalow with mature gardens. Entrance porch, hallway, lounge, dining room, fitted kitchen, family room. Conservatory. Bathroom to ground floor. upvc DG, LPG CH. Driveway with parking for 3 cars. garage. Gardens to front and rear. No chain.



Birch Grove, Barry - £309,950
Extended three bedroom semi detached. Cul de sac location. Knap area of Barry. Hallway, family room, lounge, dining room, kitchen, utility/downstairs wc. Family bathroom and separate wc on first floor. upvc DG. Gas CH. Enclosed front, side and rear gardens. Driveway with parking for 2 vehicles. Detached single garage.

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Holton Road, Barry - £5,500 per annum
Situated in the east end of Holton Road, Barry town's main shopping centre. Ground floor unit comprising three offices. Kitchen, cloakroom, fully secured to front with automatic roller shutters, parking to rear. Newly refurbished. Flexible terms. Further information 01446 709933.



Palmersale Business Centre - £28,000 per annum
Ground floor approx 371m² / 3998ft. First floor approx 87m² / 940ft. Vehicle access via electrically operated roller shutter door. Flexible terms available. Viewing by appointment only. Further information 01446 709933.



Holton Road, Barry - £5,500 per annum
An opportunity to lease a unit previously utilised as office space. Situated on the main thoroughfare of Holton Road. Briefly comprising shop, office, shelving for storage. wc. Easy access of Cardiff and M4. Flexible terms available. Viewing by appointment only. Further information 01446 709933.



Lombard Street, Barry - £7,000 per annum
Suite of offices set over 2 floors. Total floor area approx 94m² / 1015ft. Security roller shutter doors to front window. Porch, two offices to ground floor, kitchen, ladies and gents toilets. Two further offices to first floor. Rear yard. Unit has been recently refurbished. Further information 01446 709933.



Holton Road, Barry - £15,000 per annum
Ground floor shop unit with basement. Prime location. Rent is plus VAT. Off road parking for four vehicles to rear. Total floor area approx 1285ft². Main shop area approx 334ft². Two offices/storage to ground level. Further 2 storage rooms and basement to lower level. Further information 01446 709933.

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E50



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D63



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C74



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D61



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C69



Carn Yr Eboi, Barry
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C75

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Woodlands Road, Barry D32
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£495 pcm - First Floor Apartment,
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Mallory Close, St Athan D58
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Flemingston Road, St Athan E52
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£525 pcm - Two bedrooms,
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C69 - £525pcm - Two bedrooms,
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2 Receptions
Sunny Rear Garden

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D67



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4 Bedrooms
Stunning Full Width Conservatory
Garage & Driveway

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D64



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5 Bedrooms
Large Rear Garden
Excellent Order Throughout

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C72



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Detached Fully Modernised Bungalow
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E47



Heol Y Dryw Rhooose Point
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4 Receptions
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C72



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C73



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D68

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Family Notices

HILLS Henry Joseph (Harry)

Diane, Helen and family would like to thank all family and friends for their sympathy and support following the loss of their father on 25th March, 2013

DEERE William (Bill)

Rosemary and family wish to thank all who attended Bill's funeral service, also for the many cards and messages received and the donations kindly given to the Parkinson Disease Society. Thanks to Reverend Canon Brunning for taking the service.

Special thanks to Ralph Austin and the Llantwit Major Rugby Club for all their help and support. Also, thank you to the staff at Milsom House for their care and to Carole and staff at W.A. Brown & Son.

SMITH Aubrey

Peacefully at home on April 6. Beloved husband of Joan, a dearly-loved father of Diane and Paul, father-in-law to Keith, and a much-loved grampa of Robert, James and Isobel. He will be sadly missed.

Funeral service will be held at Coychurch Crematorium on Friday April 19 at 11am. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to the British Heart Foundation, c/o Thomas Brothers, Green Gate, Ewenny Road, St Brides Major.

DAVIES Myra (Tudor Garage)

Suddenly but peacefully at home on March 27th, Myra, loving wife of 71 years to Tom, much loved Mam of Valmai and Gavin, grandsons Leighton, Michael and mother-in-law of Clive and the late Vivienne.

Service to be held at Coychurch Crematorium on Thursday, April 18th at 1.45pm. Family flowers only, donations if wished made payable to Crossroads and forwarded to Crossroads, West House, Stanwell Road, Penarth, CF64 2YG.

Nancy Catherine EVANS

Doreen, John and family would like to thank all who attended Mum's funeral and to Rev Melanie Prince for making the service so special. Also thanks for the many cards and donations to Ty Hafan.

GRIMWOOD Violet Ellen

Passed away peacefully at the Princess of Wales Hospital on 31st March, after a short illness, Vi, of Llantwit Major. She will be sadly missed by her children Brenda, Bob and Jan and her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Resting at W.A. Brown & Son, Llantwit Major until the funeral service on Monday, 15th April 2013 in Coychurch Crematorium at 1.45pm. Family flowers only, but donations may be made to British Heart Foundation c/o the Funeral Director (cheques only please).

PENGILLEY Joan Mary

Peacefully on March 31st at University Hospital Wales, Cardiff, after a long illness, Joan of Rhooose, beloved wife of the late Arthur.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fommon. Funeral Tuesday, April 16th, service 1.45pm at St Peters Church, Rhooose followed by cremation at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry at 3pm.

No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to Cancer Research Wales, c/o J James, 11 Fommon Road, Rhooose, Vale of Glamorgan CF62 3DZ.

CLARKE Nee Jenkins Christine Jean

On April 3rd, 2013, at home with her family at her side, Christine, aged 57 years.

Devoted wife of Terry. Much loved mum of Claire, Michelle, Samantha and Richard. Dearly loved nan to all her ten grandchildren. Christine was loved by all her friends and family and will be dearly missed.

Resting in the private chapel of The Vale Funeral Service, 181 Court Road, Barry until her service at St Nicholas Church, St Nicholas on Monday 15th April at 2.45pm followed by cremation at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry.

Family flowers only, donations, if desired, can be made at the service to Velindre Hospital. Funeral arrangements entrusted to Nicola Ellis 01446 407962

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Development that may affect a Conservation Area/ Datblygu a allai effeithio ar Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2013/00205/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig: Proposed new dwelling in garden of Highdene, St. Nicholas
Location/Lleoliad: Highdene, Cowbridge Road, St. Nicholas
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth: St. Nicholas

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2013/00268/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig: Conversion of Ashdene Manor existing building into three apartments with extensions providing a further four apartments with associated appropriate cycle and car parking and amenity spaces. Apartments all being two bed with en-suite
Location/Lleoliad: Ashdene Manor, Bridgeman Road, Penarth
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth: Affecting the Penarth

**Listed Building Consent/
Caniatâd Adeilad Rhedredig**

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2013/00215/LBC
Proposal/Cynnig: Repair and construction work to gable wall
Location/Lleoliad: Long range of stone out buildings, North west of Sutton House, Llandow, Cowbridge

Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhedredig: Grade II

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2013/00221/LBC
Proposal/Cynnig: To upgrade external signwork to the new trading style of the applicant
Location/Lleoliad: Lloyds TSB Bank Plc, High Street, Cowbridge
Listed Building:/
Adeilad Rhedredig: Grade II

Application(s) of General Interest/ Ceisiadau o Ddiddordeb Cyffredinol

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2013/00247/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig: Installation and operation of a ground mounted solar photovoltaic facility (generation capacity of approximately 4.9 megawatts)
Location/Lleoliad: Treguff Farm, St Mary Church, Cowbridge

May affect a Public Right of Way/ Gall effeithio ar Hawl Tramwy Cyhoeddus

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2013/00267/FUL
Proposal/Cynnig: Planning application for the construction of new forestry track
Location/Lleoliad: Land at Coed Arthur, Llancarfan

Details may be inspected for 21 days at the address given below, or via <http://vogonline.planning-register.co.uk/>

Gall manylion eu harchwilio am 21 diwrnod yn y cyfeiriad a roddir isod, neu drwy <http://vogonline.planning-register.co.uk/>

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (ENGLAND AND WALES) REGULATIONS, 1999

NOTICE is hereby given that the Vale of Glamorgan Council, as Local Planning Authority, has determined the following application(s), having taken into account the information contained within the Environmental Impact Assessment accompanying the application(s):

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2012/00732/EAR
Proposal/Cynnig: Application for approval of Reserved Matters: Residential Development (up to 111 dwellings by BDW Trading Ltd) and associated infrastructure works, parking, servicing and landscaping
Location/Lleoliad: Site known as West Pond, Barry Waterfront, Barry
Decision: Approved 11 March, 2013

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2012/00733/EAR
Proposal/Cynnig: Application for approval of Reserved Matters: Residential Development (up to 136 dwellings by Persimmon Homes Ltd) and associated infrastructure works, parking, servicing and landscaping
Location/Lleoliad: Site Known at West Pond, Barry Waterfront, Barry
Decision: Approved 11 March, 2013

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2012/00806/EAR
Proposal/Cynnig: Application for approval of Reserved Matters: Residential Development (up to 128 dwellings by Taylor Wimpey Homes) and associated infrastructure works, parking, servicing and landscaping
Location/Lleoliad: Site known as West Pond, Barry Waterfront, Barry
Decision: Approved 11 March, 2013

Documents relating to the above mentioned application(s) may be inspected free of charge at the address below during normal office hours.

Dated / Dyddiedig: 11 April, 2013

M. Goldsworthy
Operational Manager Development & Building Control,
Vale of Glamorgan Council, Dock Office, Barry. CF63 4RT

Gwen (13) in Wales under-16s squad

LOCAL footballer Gwen Davies was recently selected for the Welsh under-16s girls national development squad – despite being only 13.

After attending a development squad training camp in the National Sports Centre Wales, Sophia Gardens, Gwen was then selected as part of the under-15s squad to compete in the Bob Docherty Trophy in Belfast last week.

The girls flew out of Cardiff Airport on Easter Sunday, to prepare for four matches over four days against the Republic of Ireland, England, Scotland, and Northern Ireland.

The squad comprised many girls competing for the first time in an international tournament and included Gwen Davies and Chloe Jones, from the Vale Girls FC, who play in the South Wales Girls League.

The girls nervously began their campaign on Easter Monday against a very strong Republic of Ireland side and despite some great football lost 4-0.

After a rest day, the girls played well on Wednesday morning and were narrowly beaten 1-0 in the closing minutes of their game against Northern Ireland after



dominating possession for the majority of the game.

Wednesday afternoon saw a determined, positive side face Scotland and after a tense game, drew 1-1. Thursday morning saw their final match against England, where the girls showed strength and determination and played some excellent football.

After an exciting game, the girls ended the tournament on a high, beating England 3-1. The girls had a great time and were all proud to represent their country, returning home on Thursday evening with pride, passion and belief!

Gwen now hopes to build on the success of the tournament and is looking forward to representing Wales again later in the year. **SD**

Bowling club are seeking members

CADOXTON Bowling Club will be holding an open day on Saturday, April 20, from 10am, at the clubhouse in Victoria Park, Cadoxton.

John to train future Special Olympians

AFTER the success of the London Olympic Games last year, all eyes are now focused on Brazil in 2016 where golf will be on the curriculum for the first time.

However, in only two years time, another event will capture the imagination of millions of sporting fans – when the Special Olympics take place in Los Angeles, U.S.A.

The games, which originated in the 1960s, are for athletes with disabilities such as Autism, Down Syndrome, Aspergers, varying forms of blindness and many other forms of learning difficulties.

From its humble beginnings, the Special Olympics now have competitors from over 150 countries.

After being approached by Golf Disability Wales last year, which involved coaching sessions for pupils from special needs schools from Penarth, P.G.

A professional, John Hastings, has now been

offered the opportunity to get involved with the Special Olympic coaching scheme with weekly sessions to start next month over a ten week period.

The St Andrews Major professional will be responsible for a select group of players whose aim will be to gain a greater knowledge of the game as well as giving each individual a greater sense of self worth, confidence and achievement.

With Golf Development Wales offering financial support for this new venture, the immediate future looks promising, although fundraising events will (hopefully) raise additional money to enable competitors to benefit to a greater extent.

Chairman of Special Olympics Wales, Jeff Vickery, hopes that from the coaching sessions one or two players will emerge who could go all the way to Los Angeles in 2015 to represent the Great Britain side.

COTTRELL LADIES IN EASTER ACTION



ON a cold dry morning on March 28, an Easter competition was played by Cottrell ladies as a 12-hole individual stableford.

The winner was Helen Evans, with 25 points, second Anne Birt, 22 points and third Mary Watkins, 21 points.

There were three teams – the Daffodils beating the Leeks and the Dragons.

There was an Easter Egg prize for Vicki Long who had a 'hole in one' last month.

A total of 58 ladies attended the Easter lunch. Following the presentation of prizes by the ladies' captain, Tessa Matthews, she thanked the staff, Angela Padfield for providing the table decorations, and Anne Morgan for organising a very good raffle. **CB**

ABOVE: Helen Evans, Anne Birt, and Mary Watkins prizewinners, with Tessa Matthews, the ladies' captain.



Judy James, team leader of the Daffodils, Tessa Matthews, team leader of the Leeks, and Jan Cosby, the Dragons' team leader.



LEFT: Vicki Long recently had a hole in one!

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Barrians put Dutch tourists to the sword

THE Barrians finally returned to action for the first time since last December – with the visit of Dutch tourists, Wageningen.

Player-manager Ken Chow was forced to reshuffle his pack at the last minute when former captain, Graham Mathews, pulled out with an injury and the late arrival of fellow centre Mike Aivalent.

Chow handed a rare start in midfield for Kyle Case, alongside Adam Lee, whilst reuniting the half-back partnership of Joel Williams and Ryan Corrigan. Kyle Rendall was amongst the substitutes for the first time in two years.

The game began in ferocious pace, as the tourists used their direct running style to try to pierce the Barrians defence. It was to no avail, however, as the home line was superbly marshalled by Corrigan, and ably supported by Moffat, Betts and Lee.

Wageningen showed

great enthusiasm in the breakdown, but it was Barry who had the more know-how, led by the experience of Brad Gee and Glyn Pirso, who both had barnstorming games.

The front row was winning scrums and turnover balls with apparent ease, and from this pressure the Barrians had the first score, with Lloyd Jones on hand to cross; Corrigan was unable to add the extras.

Sensing their superiority in the tight, the home side utilised this to their full advantage, with all eight forwards to the fore as the green-and-whites tore into the opposition defence. Pirso, Gee, Ring and Jones carried tirelessly.

It was no surprise when Gee dived over for a second score after prolonged pressure. The conversion was missed.

After Pirso was forced off with a head injury, substitute Nick Lundy continued the good work, and was rewarded with a push-over try of his own. The

extras were not added again, however, and instead it was Barry who had to do some last ditch defending at the death of the first half, with Mike Jones on hand to clean up just in front of his own line.

The second half saw a spate of substitutions and the dreaded uncontested scrum, negating the power of the Barrians front row.

This, however, allowed the back five forwards to roam more freely in the loose, and substitutes Flynn, McTavish and Rolfe were immediately in the action, ably supported by Aivalent, Betts, and ultimately the outstanding Jones, who appeared to be everywhere.

After Mike Jones had a tried correctly ruled out, the away side struck with a superbly solo consolation try, with their player running half the length of the pitch to score from loose play. It was a score that left both sides and all spectators applauding.

The Barrians got straight back to it, however, and had further scores from scrum-half Williams, Corrigan and Aivalent to put the game beyond the visitors as their legs tired.

There was still time for player-manager Ken Chow to come on to shore up the scrum, and from the last play of the game, he set up Lloyd Jones to burst through the defence once more to pass to Lundy, who scored his second try of the game and also his career.

The management would like to thank their spirited visitors who played made the game such a spectacle, and also for Lee Jones, Elliot Evans, Gareth Hall and Kyle Case who put on the away shirt when was required.

The Barrians return to

action on April 20 at home to Old Penarthians, while the 2nd XV are home on April 13 against Rhiwbina in the league.

TEAM: Bailey; N Jenkins, Lee, Case, M Jones; Williams (c), Corrigan; Pirso, Gee, Ring; Hall, Moffat; Betts, Lloyd Jones, Westall;

Subs used: Lundy; McTavish, Flynn, Rolfe, Rendall, T Jenkins, Aivalent, Chow, D Evans.

Appeared for Wageningen: Lee Jones, E Evans, Hall, Case; **Man-of-the-match:** Lloyd Jones.

KC

TOYOTA IS BACK IN THE MPV MARKET

THERE are few vehicles that will transport three generations of the same family, but MPVs (multi-purpose vehicle) solve this difficulty.

Traditionally, though there's one drawback and that is that they're environmentally unfriendly gas guzzlers, which is why Toyota scrapped its popular Previa.

However, it has revisited the MPV, with the introduction of the compact yet versatile Verso.

With its three rows of seats the Toyota Verso Icon was the perfect solution for the Saunders family when my wife Caroline wanted to treat her parents to a day out, but didn't want them to drive. We drove to her parents with Harriet (two) and Heidi (three weeks) both in their car seats in the rear. When we collected Caroline's parents, Harriet and Heidi were swiftly shoved in the boot.

Not quite how it sounds, because the third row of seats fitted snugly into the boot floor. They were simply pulled up for use.

Initially, it seemed that space was tight in the rear, but then I discovered that the second row slid forward in the same way as the front.

Access to the third row was simple because each seat in the second row folded forward with the pull of an easy-to-use lever.

There were only six of us and the Verso, could fit seven, which meant that the middle seat in the second row was redundant. Great then that it could be folded down flush to give a little extra room.

We were all pleasantly surprised with how user-friendly and versatile the seating arrangements were in the Verso. The designers have clearly thought long and hard over the best use of space and they have done a good job.

Passengers in the second row benefited from folding tables, which came in very handy when we all decided to eat our picnic in the car, because it was far too cold outside.

The driver of such a

MOTORIZING with TIM SAUNDERS

vehicle is always keen to know what his passengers are doing and so a helpful folding panoramic mirror can be found above the rear view mirror; a very useful tool indeed – I could even see my daughters in the third row.

Cubbyholes abound for all the family clobber. When the third row of seats is in operation, boot space is drastically reduced and so it is helpful to find a sizeable hidden space in the boot floor, large enough for a reasonable size bag, as you can see from the videos at testdrives.biz.

The 1.6-litre petrol engine can be a little lethargic and I had trouble selecting second gear – the six-speed box not as smooth as I would prefer.

However, the brakes were sharp and precise. The cruise control could be

trusted to keep the set speed no matter how steep the incline.

Despite its capabilities inside, the Verso felt a relatively small car to drive, proving fairly easy to park, helped by the addition of the rear parking camera that appeared in the media centre in the middle of the dash.

The one thing I couldn't come to terms with though, was the position of the speedometer and rev counter. They were not directly in front of the driver as usual but to the left.

The Verso benefits from all the practicality of the old Toyota Previa and Renault Espace but in a more user-friendly and compact package, better suited to the demands of today's families.

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Bowls open day

BARRY Central Bowling Club, Gladstone Gardens, would like to invite any male or female to our open day which will commence from 2pm on Saturday, April 20.

Whether you are an experienced bowler or just starting to take an interest in the game you would be more than welcome. We have qualified coaches for both men and ladies and they would be on hand to assist in any way possible.

We have a purpose built club house with bar facilities and play on a regular basis on a Wednesday evening and Saturday afternoons in the Cardiff and District League.

We also have several touring sides visiting us again this year and these games prove to be very entertaining both on the green and afterwards in the clubhouse where the ladies provide excellent catering.

Age is no barrier as we have players ranging from 16 years of age to some members who are in their eighties but both young and old enjoying the company of all the members and enjoy the fun we have on the green which in some respects is all that matters. Good company, fresh air and comradeship - you cannot beat it.

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GEM sport

Barry undone in the sun by Llandaff North

BARRY travelled to the north of the capital last weekend to face **Llandaff North**, a side that have beaten several of the leading teams this season, yet strangely succumbed to those lower down the order.

The spring weather could not have been better, with a warm and sunny afternoon and a mere zephyr disturbing the line flags.

Eight of the Barry team were involved in a Cardiff and District fixture on the previous Wednesday and some of these certainly looked rather jaded as the match progressed. Despite some notable absences, the visitors started brightly but then some of the old frailties emerged.

The home team were awarded a penalty, which was made easier when the extra 10 metres awarded for talking to the referee, put the kick within distance.

The Barry winger, Dix, was giving the home defence plenty of problems and broke the first tackle on several occasions.

The visitors, however, were being given a rough ride in the set scrums and having difficulty in releasing their back division. This unit clearly had the advantage over the Llandaff North threequarters.

Barry fell further into arrears when they received a harsh penalty for an alleged high tackle. This put the Cardiff team six points clear. Their opponents were not to be outdone; it fell appropriately to Dix to break three tackles and cross for an excellent try. The conversion, from a wide angle, was unsuccessful.

Barry's problems in the tight exchanges became more serious with the loss of O'Sullivan to a yellow card.

After only one penalty at the scrum, the referee decided that a penalty try was the appropriate sanction.

Stout defence by the visiting backs ensured that the Llandaff North advantage was limited to eight points on the run up to half time.

Hunt for Hollister was the only change at the start of the second half. The referee was not doing Barry any favours; Llandaff's tight head prop split away from his bind but attracted no whistle, while in the very next scrum the visiting front row were penalised for the self-same offence!

No points were conceded on that occasion but it seems the modern trend is to penalise the weaker performers at the set pieces.

To their credit, Barry stuck to the task and a rare incursion into enemy territory

bore fruit. From quickly recycled ball involving Scott and Tanner, they set up a further try for Dix, who came onto the ball at just the right angle. The conversion was a formality and put the visitors within one point of their hosts.

Barry's tactics at this stage were misguided and when they took the kicking option, they obtained just reward with a well-struck penalty for a narrow two point lead.

Within the last five minutes of play each side had the chance to score from a penalty attempt. It was Llandaff North, however, who succeeded, where Barry's last gasp effort fell agonisingly just wide of the posts, to take the game 16-15.

Perhaps it was a disappointment to lose at the death but the result was a fair reflection of the sides on the day.

Barry: Dix, Adams, Provis, Ryan, T Poole, Hardy, Lee, O'Sullivan, Evans, Hollister, Scott, Tanner, Parker, O Poole, Jones (captain). Replacements. Hunt, Jennings, Giddings, Williams.

This Saturday Barry are at home to Llantwit Major in a league fixture, and at 6pm on Wednesday, April 17, a Barry XV entertain Glamorgan Wanderers as part of the club's 125th anniversary celebrations.

CO

Goalless draw for Dinas Powys

DESPITE the scoreline, this 0-0 draw with Undy Athletic was an entertaining game, with Dinas Powys FC getting the better chances, particularly in the second half.

The hosts had an early chance when Undy keeper James Smalcombe sliced his clearance straight to Adam Carpenter, but his shot was just wide. Undy forced the first corner, which reached Gareth Heywood but he shot over the bar.

Matt Trotman played a fine ball down the left to Gareth Tedstone, who beat the full back before cutting the ball back to Carpenter, but again his shot was wide of the target.

Undy began to get a lot of possession but the Dinas defence were well organised, catching the visitors off-side on numerous occasions.

On the 25-minute mark Dinas had another chance when Tedstone, this time from the right wing, played Trotman in but Smalcombe just managed to smother the ball as he was about to shoot.

On 32 minutes, Tedstone and Trotman linked up again, and this time Trotman brought a good save from Smalcombe.

Late in the half an inswinging corner from Undy forced Dinas keeper Damien Lack to push the ball over the crossbar.

The half ended goalless with Undy having more possession but Dinas having the better scoring chances.

The Dinas midfield of Richard Yarr, Iwan Izzard, Matt Trotman and James Williams were having superb games and they began to get more and more possession as the second half went on.

Dinas thought they had opened the scoring when, from a corner, Carpenter headed powerfully, but somehow Smalcombe, with a reflex save pushed the ball over the bar.

Another good chance came when Richard Yarr played Tedstone in for a one on one with Smalcombe but his shot was just off target.

Player/manager Mark Dunford brought himself on for the last 10 minutes, replacing Matt Trotman, and the only other chance of any note was a Dinas free kick which Carpenter took but Smalcombe gathered comfortably, and the sides had to share the points.

This Saturday, April 13 Dinas entertain Ammanford with a 2.30pm kick off.

Squad: Damien Lack, Nicky Bruce, Chris Hinam (captain), Mike Lewis, James Bloxham, Iwan Izzard, James Williams, Richard Yarr, Matt Trotman, Gareth Tedstone, Adam Carpenter. Substitutes: Danny Street, Kieran Harman, Steve Provis, Mark Dunford.

PK

Egg-cellent day for tennis!

DINAS POWYS Tennis Club had a fabulous Easter day tournament which saw adults and juniors playing over mini nets with sponge balls.

We had about 30 entrants and played lots of doubles matches. The atmosphere and weather were bright and warm.

The winning doubles junior was Jack Thomas, winning doubles adult was Paul Davidson and winning singles was Alex Vowles.

Well done to all who turned up and had a family fun day and thanks to Rob Walbyoff for organising it.

It was also a very good day for one of our junior members, Isaac Follon



(pictured), who although couldn't attend the Easter day tournament, was playing in a Black Dog County tournament for his age group and came third over the whole of south Wales.

Well done Isaac - a very talented and promising junior of the club.

NW

Dinas RFC are made to hang on for win

RIGHT: Action from Dinas' win over Treherbert.
PICTURE BY MARK HARRIS

THE brilliance of the last 20 minutes of the previous week at Pontrhydyfen continued as Dinas Powys scorched to a 20-0 lead after 25 minutes on a sun drenched Common against Treherbert.

A stunning try by centre Dai Lloyd followed an earlier try by right wing Sam Alderman, supplement-



ed by two conversions and two penalties by fly half Gravin Cooper, were amassed in a qual-

ity period of rugby.

The men from Treherbert seemed to be heading for a drubbing and the 'Villagers' for a four try bonus point victory. Few would have believed that the home side would not add to their total and eventually have to hang on for the narrowest of wins as the visitors scored two second half tries in addition to the try scored in the final movement of the first half.

They also had a long range penalty kick that would have gained them victory in the final minutes, therefore it was relief and bemusement that greeted the final whistle, the final score 20-19.

Relief for the win and the vital league points that maintain the home side's position at the top of the table, and bemusement in that how such a dominant position was almost squandered.

HJ

Imps hold football festival

CADOXTON Imps AFC will be holding their annual mini and junior 5-a-side football festival on Bank Holiday Monday (May 6) in the grounds of Barry Comprehensive School, Port Road, Barry.

The Imps' annual football festival has become an established fixture in the Barry footballing calendar and this will be the 16th consecutive year that the event had again been kindly sponsored by McDonald's Restaurant (Barry) which ensures that every child taking part receives both a cer-

tificate and a medal.

The tournament will consist of different age groups at year 2 (soccer school), year 3, year 6 and year 7 (no year 4 or year 5 sections).

Invitations have been sent to all club secretaries in the Vale and participation is on a first come, first served basis so any teams wishing to attend should contact their own club secretary to book their place with Imps club secretary Gary Spierling by April 14, together with the entry fee of £25 per team.

For any queries, club secretary Gary Spierling can be contacted on cad-dyimps@msn.com.

MP

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